From the Director  2
MACRS Spring Conference  3 - 5
Calendar of Events  6&7
Road Masters & Roads Scholars  8 - 9
Pipe Puller  10
Summer Safety  11
Montana LTAP Library  11
Parting Shot . . .  12
As this fiscal year is coming to a close, it by no means has slowed down. We just finished the 2014 MACRS Convention with more participants and vendors than ever before—almost 370! The calendar is filled with work zone technician classes and flagging certification workshops across the state for April, May and June. Our Gravel Roads Workshops will be at three locations this spring and be one-day events. In reviewing our needs assessment survey, many county road departments have limited budgets and indicated they cannot afford to send crew for overnight events and requested one-day training. By condensing the Gravel Road class to one morning of classroom instruction, providing lunch, and going out into the field for hands-on exercises in the afternoon, we will hopefully be able to have more participants attend these one-day events.

Another avenue for learning more about gravel road materials and specifications without the cost of travel expenses would be to watch our April webinar where Jerry Otto, Hill County Road Supervisor, and Ovila Byrd, Flathead County Road Supervisor, joined me in discussing gravel road materials. (MT LTAP Website Link: https://connectdot.connectsolutions.com/p8eegwdam14/) County road departments could use this half-hour webinar as their monthly meeting topic and pause the recording while crew members discuss various points. In this webinar my main focus was to offer some basic tools such as using Gilson sieves to monitor gravel materials being delivered by contractors to insure their contract was being adhered to or for county road departments to check their own gravel pits for proper ratio of fines to coarser aggregates when loading.

Jerry Otto said having a knowledgeable loader operator is worth his weight in gold. His loader operators select on both sides of the cone pile because the heavier aggregates slide away from the drop zone and the finer aggregates drift to the backside of the drop zone. His operators pay attention to blending the material as best they can when loading the truck. This helps the motorgrader operator when they are pulling natural materials up from the road to blend with the new added gravel.

During the webinar Otto expressed his concern of using anything over one inch for gravel surfacing materials. He had one road where one and a half inch gravel was used and it would not stay where placed. With traffic, the rocks moved which de-stabilized the surface and the fines blew away. It was a costly mistake as they had to pull it off and start over. He also highly recommended to screen off the green clay before it went into his crusher. Otherwise he said it took a half day with an impact air chisel to clean out the clay mess in his crusher. He mixes the clay back in after the material has been crushed.

Ovila Byrd’s major concern was his gravel contractor trying to meet the #4 Sieve spec of 50 to 70 percent passing. They had to rerun the gravel through the crusher to meet this specification.

Byrd was out there on a daily basis taking samples when the gravel was being delivered to the road site. When the contractor understood they were going to get monitored often, the gravel road materials met the contract specifications. The other issue Byrd had was at the gravel pit itself. The contractor kept moving large rocks, over two feet in diameter, out of the way to get to the easier crushable material. Byrd discussed the issues of his crew having to try and drive around these obstacles to get the gravel loaded. An agreement was reached these large rocks would also be crushed because they needed to be fractured to have compaction capabilities.

These training efforts are just a few ways we continue to serve our constituents. Please give us a call if you need assistance as we head into the summer months.

**Travel safe, Steve Jenkins, Montana LTAP Director**
Jerry Backlund, MACRS 2013-2014 President, emphasized interaction with interagencies and counties at this year’s MACRS 34th conference March 24 -27, 2014, in Great Falls.

“The program agenda is the culmination of input from MACRS district representatives who contacted their counties in their district and asked for feedback on major concerns,” explained Backlund. “The MACRS officers reviewed events over the past year to see where a speaker could address the entire conference audience and not only provide answers, but also give the opportunity for discussion and possible solutions.”

As partners with MACRS, the Montana LTAP program provided conference planning and registration assistance. MT LTAP Director Steve Jenkins noted, “The attendance at this conference exceeded last year’s, indicating the topics selected drew the large numbers. We were over 370 attendees.”

Pre-Conference: March 24
Invited back due to major issues surrounding gravel pit forms and understanding Department of Environmental Quality’s new procedures, J.J. Conner, DEQ, provided the preconference audience with vital information and contacts. He said to use DEQ personnel like a free consultant prior to establishing a county gravel pit. Conner said at the DEQ website (http://deq.mt.gov/default.mcpx) there is a new interactive map showing existing sites: http://svc.mt.gov/deq/wmadst/. In the Listing Layers menu there are “Opencut Permits” and Reference Layers such as Towns, Counties, Legislative Districts, Conservation Districts, etc. When clicking on a map location, an information box will pop up giving Latitude, Longitude, County, Level, Conservation District, Legislative Districts, and Watershed.

Conference: March 25
The first day started with presentation of colors by the Marine Corps Honor Guard and the National Anthem sung by the Turner Elementary Choir from Blaine County. MACRS President Jerry Backlund then introduced Cascade County Commissioner Joe Briggs and Custer County Keith Holmlund. They both welcomed everyone to the conference.

The Keynote Speaker
Marne Deranger, Vice Commander, 341st Missile Wing, Malmstrom Air Force Base, provided her background information coming from a very rural setting and then proceeding in her military career. Deranger appreciated the partnerships with the various county road departments in regards to the missile site road maintenance and looked forward to continuing these contacts. Cont’d on Page 4...
Throughout the conference, almost sixty vendors had their booths set up to meet participants who asked questions about their products.

“The support of vendors is outstanding,” said MACRS President Jerry Backlund. “We have had some vendors coming to this conference for over twenty years. It definitely is a win-win for everyone. Vendors are able to contact someone from just about every county in the state and participants see the latest innovations.”

Award certificates were handed out to those vendors who participated 5 to 10 years; 10 to 15 years; 15 to 20 years; and over 20 years. The following vendors sponsored events:
- Great West Engineering
- RDO Equipment Company
- Tractor and Equipment Company
- Tri-State Truck and Equipment
- Stahly Engineering and Associates, Inc.
- LyCox Enterprises, Inc.
- Schulte Industries
- Tilleman Motors
- Capital I Industries
- Bulldogger Services, Inc.
- Cimeline
- Little Falls Machine, Inc.
- Northwest Plastics
- Normont Equipment Co.

New this year at MACRS was the American Hero Quilts Project for part of Guest Program activities. This project was born out of the love and compassion of one determined Washington State woman. Her dream was each injured soldier returning home from war through Madigan Army Medical Hospital and other military hospitals receives a “hug” of appreciation. These “hugs” are exceptional patriotic, heirloom quality quilts. Each is unique, created by many loving hands. (http://www.americanheroquilts.com/)

Here in Montana, the American Hero Quilts Project came out of the brainstorming efforts of MACo wives last fall who wanted to do an activity. Marlys Lee (wife of Commissioner Bob Lee, Rosebud County) approached the Forsyth Piece Makers Quilt Guild to help with the project. The quilts have red, white and blue fabric that fit in with a patriotic theme. Marlys coordinated the project for MACRS and over the course of three days MACRS guests produced seven quilt tops. These quilts will be finished by the Guild and sent to Madigan Army Medical Hospital. A big thanks to all who helped on this project!

Cont’d on Page 5...
The evening banquet events included the passing of the gavel from outgoing MACRS President Jerry Backlund to incoming MACRS President Ovila Byrd. Congressman Steve Daines provided a pre-recorded welcome address to all who attended MACRS and appreciated the dedicated workers who keep Montana's rural roads safe. Road Masters and Road Scholars were acknowledged for their achievements. The evening ended with entertainment by The Cold Hard Cash Show providing Johnny Cash renditions of his most popular tunes.

SAVE THE DATES: The 2015 MACRS spring conference will be held in Great Falls with tentative dates of March 30 - April 2, 2015.

The first day afternoon session started with Katie Jerstad, Lewis and Clark County Deputy Attorney, who presented on county speed limits, weight limits, and parking restrictions for counties.

The afternoon split sessions included Michele Puiggari, Attorney, covering the importance of documenting disciplinary action. The other session was on Tier 4 Emissions with the following presenters:
- David Mills and Dennis Morlock, Tristate Truck & Equipment
- Kraig Pester, Tractor and Equipment company
- Geoffrey Francis, Deere and Company

The afternoon ended with TriState Truck and Equipment Social being held in the French Quarter.

Conference: March 26
At the Wednesday morning Prayer Breakfast, forty-five newcomers were introduced and welcomed by MACRS President Jerry Backlund. Once again Backlund noted this was a record amount of newcomers to MACRS and was glad to see how the county commissioners and county road supervisors were supporting MACRS by sending their personnel for training.

The first session started with the Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil - Integrated Bridge System showcase information regarding the Dupuyer bridge constructed this last fall by Montana Department of Transportation. John Sharkey, MDT Great Falls District Geotechnical Engineer, oversaw the construction of this new type of bridge design. Providing the Federal Highway Administration viewpoint was Drew Sielbach, Montana FHWA Structures Engineer.

Sielbach noted this particular construction is part of the FHWA Every Day Counts initiative. Interested counties can find more information about EDC can be found at http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/everydaycounts/.

The next session started with Kraig McLeod, Montana Department of Transportation, explaining how the Highway Safety Improvement Project (HSIP) works.

Wayne Noem, MDT Transportation Planning, discussed various funding avenues for local governments. Noem spent some time on the Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP), outlining what the funding covered and provided contact information. He also reviewed the Federal Lands Access Program explaining the objective of this program is to improve access to federal lands and their resources on infrastructure that jurisdiction or maintenance is by a state government, local government or tribal government. These projects are funded in Montana to the ratio of 87.58% federal funds and 13.42% matching funds. More information is available at http://www.wlf fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/mt/ or contact Noem at wnoem@mt.gov.

Steve Jenkins, MT LTAP Director, followed with an outline of county road departments’ Gravel Road PASER (PAvement Surface Evaluation and Rating) 2008/2009 study. He urged county road departments to send in their most recent PASER ratings for 2014. With county road departments rating their roads, they will then have documentation showing where they have improved roads and where roads need improvement with possibly being able to apply for some type of funding to help with the burdening costs or road maintenance. Jenkins wanted anyone who was having difficulty with the road inventory rating process to please call his office. By the end of this year Jenkins hopes to be able to have all county road inventories gathered and have this documentation for the MACRS Executive Board.

The afternoon session began with a panel discussing wild land fires. Eric Lepisto, Bureau of Land Management; Brad McBratney, U.S. Forest Service; and Randy Sanders, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation provided a variety of information for participants including their role in assisting with fires in their district.

The evening banquet events included the passing of the gavel from outgoing MACRS President Jerry Backlund to incoming MACRS President Ovila Byrd. Congressman Steve Daines provided a pre-recorded welcome address to all who attended MACRS and appreciated the dedicated workers who keep Montana’s rural roads safe. Road Masters and Road Scholars were acknowledged for their achievements. The evening ended with entertainment by The Cold Hard Cash Show providing Johnny Cash renditions of his most popular tunes. **SAVE THE DATES: The 2015 MACRS spring conference will be held in Great Falls with tentative dates of March 30 - April 2, 2015.**
## Calendar of Events • July 2014 - December 2014

### July 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 4: Fourth of July Holiday - Offices Closed
- **15:** MT LTAP Webinar: TBA - 7:30-8:00am
- 21-24: National LTAP/TTAP Summer Conference, St. Louis, MO

### August 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 12-14: SafetyFest - Havre (www.safetyfestmt.com/)
- **19:** MT LTAP Webinar: TBA - 7:30-8:00am

### September 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 1: Labor Day Holiday - Offices Closed
- **3 & 4:** 25th Annual Equipment Safety Training and Snow Rodeo - Great Falls, MT (MT LTAP) *Brochure available in July*
- **16:** MT LTAP Safety Webinar: TBA - 7:30am-8:00am

### October 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **MACRS Fall District Meetings:**
  - 6: Polson
  - 7: Butte
  - 9: Helena
  - 14: Glendive
  - 15: Billings
  - 8: 10: 83rd League of Cities & Towns - West Yellowstone, MT
  - **8:** Public Works Directors Meeting - West Yellowstone, MT
  - 16: Put On The Brakes Day - 14th Anniversary (go to: www.brakesonfatalities.org)
  - 13: Columbus Day - Observed (Montana LTAP Offices Open)
  - **21:** MT LTAP Safety Webinar: TBA - 7:30am-8:00am
  - 21-23: 28th Regional Local Road Coordinators Conference, Rapid City, SD

### November 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 4: Election Day - Offices Closed
- 11: Veterans’ Day - Offices Closed
- **12:** LTAP Leadership - Great Falls
- **12 - 13:** MACRS Planning Meeting, 1pm - 5pm and 8am - noon;
- **19:** MT LTAP Safety Webinar: TBA - 7:30am - 8:00am
  - 27 - 28: Thanksgiving Holiday - Offices Closed

### December 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **TBA:** LTAP Winter Safety
- 3: LTAP Leadership - Miles City
- **16:** MT LTAP Safety Webinar: TBA - 7:30am-8:00am
  - 25 & 26: Christmas Holiday - Offices Closed

---

**Safety Meeting Webinars from Montana LTAP**

- **July 15, 2014:** TBA
- **August 19, 2014:** TBA

Monthly Thirty-Minute Safety Webinars held at 7:30am on Tuesday Mornings

Call Montana LTAP at 1-800-541-6671 for more information!
### Calendar of Events • January 2015 - June 2015

#### January 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1: New Year’s Day - MT LTAP Offices Closed
11-15: 94th Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC
19: Martin Luther King Day - Offices Closed
20: MT LTAP Safety Webinar - TBA 7:30am-8:00am
26-29: 12th Annual Safety Congress - Great Falls, MT (MT LTAP):
   - 26am: Work Zone Tech
   - 26pm: Traffic Control Supervisor
   - 27: Traffic Control Supervisor
   - 28: Roadway Safety Training
   - 29: Worker Safety Training

#### February 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4: Asphalt Institute - Helena, MT (MT LTAP)
16: President’s Day - Observed (Montana LTAP Offices Open)
24: MT LTAP Safety Webinar - TBA 7:30am-8:00am

#### March 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9-13: MSU Spring Break
10: MT LTAP Safety Webinar TBA - 7:30am-8:00am
16: Flagging Certification Course - Butte (MT LTAP)
17: Flagging Certification Course - Great Falls (MT LTAP)
18: Flagging Certification Course - Havre (MT LTAP)
19: Flagging Certification Course - Billings (MT LTAP)
20: Flagging Certification Course - Billings (MT LTAP)
30 - April 3: MACRS 35th Annual Conference - Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT (MT LTAP)

#### April 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1-2: MACRS 35th Annual Conference - Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT (MT LTAP)
TBA: National Work Zone Awareness Week (FHWA)
12-15: APWA North American Snow Conference - Grand Rapids, MI
More info: http://www.apwa.net/Snow
21: MT LTAP Safety Webinar: TBA 7:30-8:00am
19-23: NACE Annual Conference 2015, Daytona Beach, FL

#### May 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6: Gravel Roads - Bozeman
12: Work Zone Flagging Course - Miles City (MT LTAP)
13: Work Zone Flagging Course - Glendive (MT LTAP)
14: Work Zone Flagging Course - Wolf Point (MT LTAP)
17-23: National Public Works Week (APWA)
19: Gravel Roads - Baker
20: Gravel Roads - Roundup
25: Memorial Day - Offices Closed

#### June 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Th</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2: Work Zone Flagging Course - Bozeman (MT LTAP)
3: MACRS Executive Meeting, 1-5pm - Bozeman
4: MT LTAP Annual Advisory Board Meeting, 9am-12pm - Bozeman
16: MT LTAP Safety Webinar - TBA 7:30am-8:00am

### Training Opportunities at Montana LTAP Website:
[http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltapv2/training/index.html](http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltapv2/training/index.html)

---

If you injure or kill someone while DUI, you can be convicted of vehicular homicide while under the influence. Expect a prison term up to 30 years and fines up to $50,000, or both. DON’T DRINK & DRIVE! § 45-5-106, MCA

---

Some dates and locations are subject to change.
Call Genevieve Houska, LTAP, 1-800-541-6671 to confirm.
John Stokes, Pondera County Road Supervisor: “I would first like to thank all the LTAP personnel for making this achievement possible. Through your dedicated training you have helped many “machinery operators,” such as myself, learn there is more to this job than just running equipment.

The first LTAP meeting I attended was a gravel roads class taught by a first-time trainer; Steve Jenkins was his name. I learned a lot from him that day almost 20 years ago and he is still teaching me things today. As my job has changed so have the trainings I attend. Now the leadership and the safety classes help me while the equipment and gravel road classes help the operators.

I am also lucky to have Commissioners who encourage training for their employees and are willing to get involved in the process. Without their backing we would be unable to attend all the classes we have in the last ten years.

I personally enjoy the MACRS Conference because I get a variety of information from all the different sessions offered and also from the interactions with all the other attendees.”

Joe Carter, Jefferson County Road Supervisor: “The Road Scholar training from Montana LTAP has provided not only me with a variety of safety training, but also my crew. I use the training during our safety meetings we have each month at the county shop to inform my crew on what is new and how we can perform and operate safely and effectively.

I also use the training and knowledge to train my fellow Airmen who are in the Montana Air National Guard 219th RED HORSE Squadron to become safe and knowledgeable in the work they perform when we go on deployments around the world.

Having the support of my commissioners to send the county road personnel to this important safety training is a big help as those crew members come back and share learned information also. It is a definite win-win all around as the public has safer roads to drive.”

Also during the MACRS Banquet, 45 Roads Scholar Level I awards were presented by Jenkins. He noted this was one of the largest Roads Scholar graduating classes yet. Jenkins said this indicates LTAP training continues to be requested by county road departments and is a viable training program based on the number of participants in our Roads Scholar Program. At present count there are almost 2,500 enrolled. There are 253 Roads Scholars Level I and eleven Road Masters.
Quotes from Roads Scholars

“It’s helped me be better prepared to be able to be a county employee. It also helped me make the transition from worker to foreman. I have a better understanding of what it takes to manage employees and deal with the public.”
Keith Hall, Flathead County Road Department

“Courses and training have helped me better understand the needs and problems our county road operators encounter.”
Mike Murray, Lewis and Clark County Commissioner

“The benefit of LTAP training has kept me well updated with the constant change in equipment technology, materials, and techniques on gravel road maintenance. It also is beneficial in going to refresher classes in the areas of job safety and discipline. I would like to thank my county officials and supervisor, as well as LTAP, for providing me with this useful training.”
Larry Duchnik, Fergus County Road Department

“The Roads Scholar classes increased my awareness of the issues facing road and bridge crews. The classes are applicable to all levels of employees as well as commissioners.”
Frank DePriest, Blaine County Commissioner

L to R Front: Mike Trimbo, Tim Posto, Keith Hall, Larry Deist
L to R Back: Jason Williams, Steve Hall, Mike Murray

L to R Front: John Siller, Bob Burrows, Richard Snider, Jared Dake, Ron Schrader, Brian Clifton, Mike Oskowski
L to R Back: Marty Kohut, Robert Engum, John Ball, Larry Duchnik, Pete McKnight

Editorial Contributions Welcome

LTAP welcomes contributions to LTAP MATTERS. Those wishing to submit relevant material to be published in the next newsletter can submit their ideas and articles to:

Michele Beck
Local Technical Assistance Program
PO Box 173910
Bozeman, MT 59717-3910

LTAP MATTERS is published quarterly.
Funding for this program is provided by the Federal Highway Administration, Montana Department of Transportation, Montana State University, and a portion of Montana’s gas tax revenues.
This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about new publications, techniques, and new training opportunities for you and your community.
• Present and past issues are available at http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltapv2/newsletter/index.html or by calling 1-800-541-6671.
• Approximately 700 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of $2.03 per copy for a total cost of $1,147.78 which includes $1,031.99 for printing and $385.79 for distribution.
• LTAP attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program or activity. Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request.
• Please send us any comments or concerns you may have regarding this newsletter with your name and address in order that we may respond in a timely manner.

(800) 541-6671 or (406) 994-6100
Fax: (406) 994-5333
e-mail: mbeck@coe.montana.edu

Street Address:
MT LTAP
2327 University Way, Room 230
Bozeman, MT 59715

L to R Front: Jim Berry, Don Johnson, Steve Johnson, Cory Lamb, Jay Sorenson
L to R Back: Jason Erickson

Not Pictured:
Fergus County: Guy Lee Murphy
Missoula County: Dennis Hendrickson, Carl Mattson, Dustin Thompson, Clint Walker, David Wendel
Phillips County: Larry Johnson
Richland County: Kelvin Bubbaum
Teton County: John Jones, David Klette, Chuck Dale
Yellowstone County: Shawn French, Darrin Kobelt

Summer 2014 Montana LTAP 9
Pipe Puller - Cañon City, Colorado

Adam Lancaster, City of Cañon, Colorado, is the contact person for the following 2013 “You Show Us Contest” entry. (atlancaster@canoncity.org) Permission to reprint this article granted by Colorado LTAP.

Problem:
While installing 24-inch diameter HDPE pipe, the gasket ends of the pipe were being damaged during the process of pushing the joints of pipe together with the bucket of the backhoe.

Solution:
After trying various method to push the pipe together without causing damage, it was decided to design and build a device to pull the two pieces of pipe together. The puller consists of a bar for leverage attached to a strap that fits down in the corrugations of the pipe with the chain and boomers attached to the other end. Then the bar is pulled back, pulling the two pieces of pipe together.

Labor, Equipment, and Materials Used:

Cost of 6 feet of 1” x 1/2” flat strap $  9.18
Cost of 3 feet of 3/4” black iron pipe $  7.98
Cost of 6 feet of 5/16” chain $ 23.94
Cost of 2 - 10” chain boomers $ 17.99
Cost of 2 - 7/16” x 2½” bolts $  2.78
Cost of 2 - 7/16” lock nuts $  2.80
Cost of Labor $160.00

Total Cost $225.67

Savings and Benefits:
The 24-inch diameter pipe costs on average $480.00 per 20-foot section and if the ends are damaged the pipe is useless as the pipe cannot be sealed. Time is saved on the job as the workers can safely put the pipe together while the operator continues to dig.
Health Problems Caused by Hot Environments

Heat Stroke is the most serious heat-related health problem. Heat stroke occurs when the body’s temperature regulating system fails and body temperature rises to critical levels. Heat stroke is a medical emergency that may rapidly result in death!

Symptoms of heat stroke include:
- Confusion
- Loss of consciousness
- Seizures
- Very high body temperature
- Hot, dry skin or profuse sweating

If a worker shows signs of possible heat stroke:
Heat stroke is a life-threatening emergency! While first aid measures are being implemented, call 911 and get emergency medical help.

- Make sure that someone stays with the worker until help arrives.
- Move the worker to a shaded, cool area and remove outer clothing.
- Wet the worker with cool water and circulate the air to speed cooling.
- Place cold wet cloths or ice all over the body or soak the worker’s clothing with cold water.

- Workers should be removed from the hot area and given liquids to drink.
- Encourage frequent sips of cool water. If the worker is unable to drink, get emergency medical help immediately.

Heat Exhaustion is the next most serious heat-related health problem.

Symptoms of heat exhaustion:
- Headache
- Nausea
- Dizziness
- Irritability
- Thirst
- Weakness
- Heavy Sweating
- Elevated Body Temperature
- Decreased Urine Output

If a worker shows signs of possible heat stroke:
- Workers with signs or symptoms of heat exhaustion should be taken to a clinic or emergency room for medical evaluation and treatment.
- If medical care is not available, call 911 immediately.
- Make sure someone stays with the worker until help arrives.
- Workers should be removed from the hot area and given liquids to drink.
- Remove unnecessary clothing including shoes and socks.
- Cool the worker with cold compresses to the head, neck, and face or have the worker wash his or her head, face and neck with cold water.
- Encourage frequent sips of cool water. If the worker is unable to drink, get emergency medical help immediately.
Parting Shot . . .

In order share the wisdom, this special column is dedicated to those who are retiring, or recently retired, and wish to pass on some gems from their years dealing with county roads or city streets. The following comments are from retiring Blaine County Road Department Supervisor Tom Fairbank:

I was born and raised on a farm near Turner, Montana and started my career with Blaine County in 1974 as a Grader Operator.

My initial training consisted of the road supervisor meeting me at the county grader, which had sat idle for 6 months. He asked me if I thought I could run it. I thought I could. The supervisor rode with me for a total of two miles and my “crash course” in grader operating was complete. I operated a grader for 28 years and when the Road Supervisor position became available in 2002, I readily applied.

In my almost 40 years with the county, I have learned many things. I have dealt with taxpayers, county officials, budgets, colleagues, employees and many more. If I have not heard it all, I have heard about it all, sometimes more than once. The main piece of advice I would like to share is to always remain flexible.

Things come up and you can never be prepared for everything. When presented with a challenging situation, the important thing is to stay calm, handle it professionally and to the best of your ability.

You are never going to make everyone happy, but if you can walk away from a job or project, satisfied you have given it your best, that is all you can ask for at the end of the day.

From a supervisor’s standpoint, the first thing you have to realize is that respect is not automatic, it needs to be earned. Your employees might not always agree with certain instructions you give them, but if they respect you and your experience, they will perform the tasks requested.

Keeping employees involved in decisions and valuing their input is key in developing a good working relationship. Your employees are going to take more pride in their work and make sure the job is done right if they have a vested interest in the project.

I understand the importance of looking at the future and being proactive to change. A department should not rely on any one person to run it. There needs to be a system in place so when a transition is made, it goes as smoothly as possible.

It is important to continually share the knowledge base you have gained as a supervisor. The department should grow and evolve with the help of that knowledge base. The system should not collapse or struggle when someone moves on; it should gain strength through that past experience.