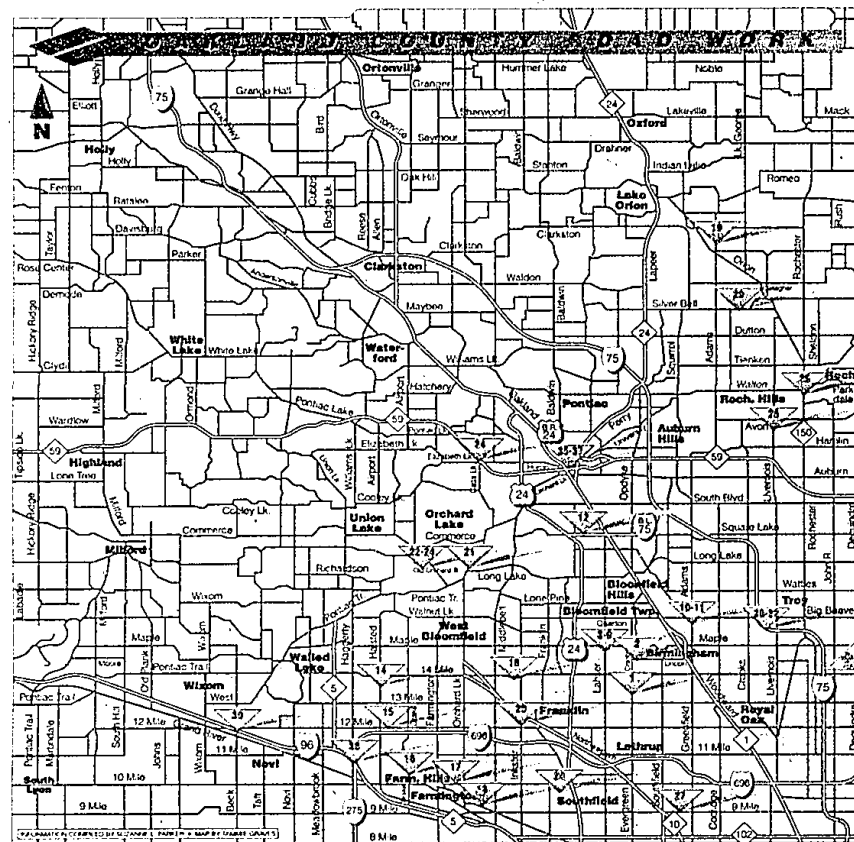


Drive time slows amid crush of road work



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It's almost summer, and you know what that means — it's time for golf, cookouts and, yes, roadwork.

While the Michigan Department of Transportation announced that spending for 1995 road projects is down from last year, improvement projects slated for this summer, many of which are under way, are enough to put a hitch in anybody's drive time around Oakland County.

This year, MDOT will spend more than \$700 million on state highway, public transportation and airport improvements. In Oakland County, MDOT will spend more than \$45 million on resurfacing, interchange improvement and bridge repairs to I-75, M-59, US-24, I-275 and I-96. Oakland County communities also will receive some of that funding for local road projects such as the Big Beaver expansion project in Troy.

Locally, the Road Commission of Oakland County will make repairs and resurfacing stretches on many of the county's major mile roads and cross roads. The Big Beaver expansion in Troy and water-main installation in Bloomfield Township are two construction projects that are already putting a kink in many drivers' routes around the area. While many of the projects that require road closure have alternate detours posted, traffic is backing up already.

Check out The Eccentric's accompanying 1995 Summer Road Work chart. Meanwhile, here are highlights of some of the major road projects taking place in Oakland County:

■ **Big Beaver Expansion:** Making way for the expected 1996 opening of Somerset Collection North at Coolidge in Troy, the expansion and enhancement project, costing \$13 million, is one of the largest under way in the area this summer. The project covers the two-mile stretch from the I-75 interchange to west of

one-mile span of Coolidge from four to six lanes north and south of Big Beaver. One lane will be open in each direction during construction.

Also around Troy, the Road Commission of Oakland County will widen several main roads, including Coolidge, from Golfview to Lexington; Dequindre, from 14 Mile to 16 Mile; and Livernois, from Big Beaver to Town Center Drive.

■ **Bloomfield Township:** Water main installation around the township this summer will wreak havoc on traffic traveling major township thoroughfares, including Lahser, 14 Mile, Maple, Quanton and Adams. The project, which began in March, is incremental. Right now, road crews are working on the stretch of 14 Mile, between Lahser and Telegraph, which is closed to traffic. Only when this portion of the project is complete will installation begin on Lincoln and Lahser, so that detour routes will always be open to traffic. Remaining construction and road closures detailed in The Eccentric's 1995 Summer Road Work chart will be dependent upon the completion of earlier phases of the program. The project is scheduled to be complete by the end of October.

■ **Beverly Hills:** Similar water-main installation will close down Evergreen, between 13 Mile and 14 Mile, from June through August this summer.

■ **Farmington Hills:** The Farmington Hills area is likely to have its share of traffic hang-ups. The city plans to resurface portions of several major roads, including Halsted, 10 Mile, 12 Mile, 14 Mile, and Drake.

■ **Rochester:** While roads will be open to local traffic all summer, widening and resurfacing of Main Street, from Second to University, most likely will make getting around downtown Rochester pretty difficult this summer.

For more information about any of these projects, or for roadwork updates, call the Michigan Department of Transportation's

CORRESPONDING KEY:

Key	Route	Type of work	Start	End	Traffic Comments
CITIES					
1	BEVERLY HILLS				
	Evergreen	Basin construction/repavement from 13 Mile to 14 Mile.	6/1/95	8/31/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Southfield, Telegraph and Lahser.
2	BIRMINGHAM				
	Cranbrook	Retention basin construction from 14 Mile to 15 Mile Road.	5/95	7/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Adams, Maple and Woodward.
3	BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP				
	14 Mile	Water main installation from Lahser to Telegraph.	3/95	5/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Telegraph, Maple and Lahser.
		Water main installation from Telegraph to Franklin.	3/95	5/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Telegraph, Maple and Franklin.
		Water main installation from Telegraph and Lahser.	6/95	8/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Lahser, 14 Mile and Telegraph.
	Lahser	Water main installation from 14 Mile to 15 Mile.	5/8/95	5/22/95	Full-time closure. Detour using 14 Mile, Maple and Telegraph.
	Lahser/Maple	Water main installation at intersection.	5/22/95	6/12/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Telegraph, 14 Mile and Quanton.
	Lahser	Water main installation from Maple to Quanton.	6/12/95	7/14/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Telegraph, Maple and Quanton.
	Lahser/Quanton	Water main installation at intersection.	7/14/95	8/17/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Maple, Telegraph, Lone Pine and Woodward.
	Quanton	Water main installation from Lahser to Woodward.	8/17/95	12/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Lahser, Long Lake and Woodward.
	Big Beaver	Water main installation from Woodward to Adams.	5/1/95	7/28/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Adams, Maple and Woodward.
	Adams	Water main installation from Big Beaver to Wadley.	8/1/95	10/7/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Wadley, Coolidge and Big Beaver.
		Water main installation from Wadley to Long Lake.	10/7/95	12/95	Full-time closure. Detour using Long Lake, Coolidge and Wadley.
	Square Lake	Resurfacing between Telegraph and Woodward.	5/95	7/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
13	FARMINGTON				
	Palmer St.	Repavement from Shiloh to 500 feet north.	5/95	7/95	Full-time closure. Open to local traffic at 10 Mile.
14	FARMINGTON HILLS				
	Halsted	Resurfacing 25 miles from 14 Mile south.	5/95	5/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
	12 Mile	Reconstruction from Drake to Halsted.	5/95	11/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
	Drake	Resurfacing 5 miles from 11 Mile south to Old Homestead.	7/95	8/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
	10 Mile	Resurfacing 25 miles from Power Road east to Broadview.	7/95	8/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
	14 Mile	Resurfacing from Inkster to 5 mile west.	7/95	8/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
15	OAKLAND TOWNSHIP				
	Adams	Resurfacing 1.5 miles from north of Orion Road to Stony Creek.	5/95	9/95	Full-time closure until 7/95 of Adams (from Orion to Stony Creek) and Clarkson Road (from Orion to Lake George).
	Silver Bell	Recovering 1.2 miles from Gallagher to Adams.	5/95	7/95	Closure during actual construction; closure dates unavailable.
16	ORCHARD LAKE				
	Indian Trail	Water sewer construction from Commerce Road to Orchard Lake.	"	"	Full-time closure.
	Old Orchard Trail	Repavement from Miller to Orchard Lake.	"	"	Full-time closure.
	Rosedale Trail	Repavement from Orchard Lake Road to 5 mile west.	"	"	Full-time closure.
	Commerce Road	Repavement from Orchard Lake Road to Miller.	"	"	Full-time closure.
17	ROCHESTER				
	Main St.	Repaving/widening .5 miles downtown from Second to University.	4/95	7/95	Open to local traffic with partial lane closures.
18	ROCHESTER HILLS				
	Livernois	Road widening from Avon to Harding.	7/95	11/95	Open to local traffic with partial lane closures.
19	SOUTHFIELD				
	9 Mile	Road improvements from Southfield to Greenfield.	5/95	7/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
	10 Mile	Bridge reconstruction between Telegraph and Beach.	6/95	11/95	Road closed to through traffic during construction.
		Road repaving from Beach to Inkster.	6/95	11/95	Open to local traffic with closure around 10 Mile bridge.
	Inkster Road	Water main installation from Northwestern to Peabodybrook.	5/95	7/95	Open to local traffic with intermittent lane closures.
20	TROY				
	Big Beaver	Reconstruction/widening of 1.5 miles from Coolidge to I-75.	3/95	7/95	Big Beaver and Coolidge reduced to one lane in all directions.
		Reconstruction/widening of 1.8 miles from Curran to I-75.	4/95	11/95	One lane open in both directions.
	Coolidge	Reconstruction/widening of 1 mile from Coolidge to Lexington.	3/95	7/95	Open to local traffic with partial lane closures.
	Livernois	Reconstruction/widening of 2 miles from Big Beaver to Town Center.	5/95	9/95	Open to local traffic with partial lane closures.
	Dequindre	Reconstruction/widening of 1 mile from 14 Mile to 15 Mile.	5/95	11/95	Open to local traffic with partial lane closures.
21	WATKINS				
	Cass Lake Road	Bridge replacement from Orion to Pontiac Lake.	5/95	8/95	Full-time closure mid-June through completion.
22	HIGHWAYS				
	I-75	Resurface 2 miles of business loop from Wide Track Dr. to Madison.	6/95	12/95	Open to traffic with partial lane closures.
		Construction and repair of ramps at Opdyke.	5/95	10/95	Open to traffic with lane closure on Opdyke.
	M-59	Resurface 1.2 miles from west of US-24 to Wide Track Dr.	7/95	10/95	Partial lane closure with intermittent lane closures. Some ramp closures on weekday evenings.
		Reconstruct 4 miles from west of I-75 to east of I-275.	8/95	10/95	Open to traffic with partial lane closures.
	I-275	Interchange improvements at Adams.	6/95	11/95	Open to traffic with partial lane closures.
		Interchange improvements at Adams.	6/95	11/95	Open to traffic with partial lane closures.
	US-24	Reconstruct 2 miles from Old Orchard to Woodward.	5/95	7/95	Open to traffic with intermittent lane closures.
	I-275	Resurface 1.5 miles of I-275 interchange.	6/95	8/95	Westbound 1.5 mile restriction to Highway north, eastbound 1.5 mile restriction to Highway south. Partial lane closures on I-275.
	I-275	Repave 1.5 miles of I-275 interchange.	6/95	11/95	Open to traffic with partial lane closures. May require ramp closure.

* Some of the construction or construction on these routes are dependent upon the completion of other routes. Dates may vary accordingly.

** Dates are approximate and should not be used for planning. For the most current project dates and other details are not yet determined.

Source: Michigan Department of Transportation and Road Commission of Oakland County