

COMMUNITYNEWS

ASK A TROOPER

Signage restricting, detouring traffic

BY SGT. CURT S. MOWERS
Minnesota State Patrol

It is the time of year where road construction mandates temporary signage restricting or detouring traffic. I contacted a MnDOT engineer to define what it all means. Here is what I was told:

“Road Closed To Thru Traffic” or “Local Traffic Only” tells you that you need to take a different route and should only cross the barrier if you have no other option to reach your destination within the restricted area. For example, if the driveway to your home, worksite, a friend or relative’s home can only be accessed on the restricted roadway you are local traffic and not thru traffic. If your destination is outside the restricted area, you must take another route and not go thru.

“Road Closed” means just that; you cannot enter or cross the barrier; if you try you may not get through, you may damage road work, get stuck and/or be subject to a citation. MnDOT explained that it would not typically put up a Road Closed if access was needed. Even emergency vehicles generally have to re-route around a closed road.

MnDOT “Detour” routes use paved roads, which can handle the weight of the detoured traffic while not violating load restrictions, and

they focus on the shortest and most direct route. For those thinking they know better than MnDOT keep in mind that if you stray from the detour odds are great you will arrive at a dead end, get stuck on gravel roads, get lost, and travel further. When drivers go off detours MnDOT and the State Patrol begin getting complaints about the unusual traffic, vehicles using driveways to turn around and people requesting directions.

“Traffic Control Change Ahead” warnings are placed in advance of to a change in traffic control devices. For instance, if stoplights were removed or stop signs are added, deleted, or set up differently. These signs are important to heed, as you do not want to go through an intersection assuming the traffic control is the same – a habitual response to these intersections or road changes could be tragic.

It is a violation and a citation can be written if you violate these lawful directions. Fines can be over \$100. If winter and you cross a barrier or gate to access a winter storm closed roadway you will be in for a fine and a bill if you need to be rescued — up to \$10,000.

MnDOT seriously considers what signs to put up and where — you can trust that they have done their homework and it is in the driver’s best interest to regard posted signs

BORDERLAND BRIEFS

BLUEBERRY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Kabetogama United Methodist Church will host a Blueberry Pancake Breakfast from 8 a.m. to noon June 29 at Kabetogama Senior Hall. Watch for signs.

STORIES IN THE PARK

Stories in the Park at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Eighth Avenue green space (near community gardens) will feature “Bear” sto-

ries, including Smokey the Bear. For all ages.

CHILDBIRTH CLASSES

Rainy Lake Medical Center and Koochiching County Public Health will provide free childbirth classes for expectant mothers in or past their sixth month of pregnancy. Classes will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. July 10, 17 and 24 at RLMC hospital campus. To register, call 283-5524.

CALENDAR

TODAY

- Community Market, 9 a.m.-noon, Backus Third Street parking lot.
- Northland Art Society 50th anniversary open house, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Backus Community Center, art room 114.
- National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Lady Slippers Chapter, 1:30 p.m., Countryside Restaurant, Blackduck.

SUNDAY

- Open Discussion, 9 a.m., Alano Club.
- A.A., 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center.
- Sunday Night Into Action Group, Step and Tradition Study, (bring Big Book and Twelve by Twelve), 7:30-9 p.m., Borderland Alano Club.

MONDAY

- Community Band, 7 a.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- Exercise, 10-11 a.m., Backus Auditorium gymnasium.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- International Falls Economic Development Authority Commission, 5 p.m., City Hall.
- Community Band, 5 p.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- Weight Watchers — weigh-in, 5-5:30 p.m.; meeting, 5:30-6, Littlefork Lutheran Church.
- Women’s Non-Violence Group, 5:15-6:45 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Texas Hold ‘Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Cribbage, 7 p.m., Elks Lodge 1599.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Women’s Step Study, 7 p.m., Coffee Landing Cafe.
- Borderland Substance Abuse Court Alumni Recovery support group, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club, 410 Fifth Ave.
- Narcotics Anonymous, “How It Works” step gathering, 7:30-9 p.m., Alanon Club.

TUESDAY

- Community Band, 7 a.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- Water Testing, 8 a.m.-noon, Koochiching County Health Department.
- WIC Clinic, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Koochiching County Health Department.
- Bone Builders, 10 a.m., Woodland Apartments.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Falls High School Class of 1948, 1 p.m., Island View Lodge (carpool City Drug parking lot).
- Alanon, 1:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church (283-3739, 283-8540).
- Community Band, 5 p.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- TOPS MN34, 5 p.m. weigh-in; 5:45, meeting,

- Koochiching County Senior Center.
- Women’s Ministries, 5-7 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Community Café, free meals served, 5:30-6 p.m., turkey cacciatore, vegetable, pudding, dinner roll, Backus Community Center.
- Beginner’s Tae Kwon Do, 5:45 p.m., Falls Elementary School gymnasium or cafeteria.
- Meatloaf Supper, 6 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Koochiching County Board of Equalization, 6 p.m.; regular board meeting prior, Koochiching County Courthouse.
- Women’s Support Group, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Texas Hold ‘Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Moose events — House, 7 p.m.; Lodge, 7:30; Legion, 8, Moose Lodge.
- A.A./N.A., 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center.
- “Celebrate Recovery,” 7-9 p.m., Evangelical Covenant Church.
- BigBook Study, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club, 410 Fifth Ave.
- Non-smoking Alcoholics Anonymous Group, 7:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church.

WEDNESDAY

- Community Band, 7 a.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- Recycling curbside collection, 8 a.m., International Falls, areas north of 11th Street and east of Highway 53 (includes Terrace Lane).
- Blood Drive, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (Irene, 285-7126), Moose Lodge.
- Retired Boise Cascade Papermakers Local 159, 9 a.m., Lenard’s.
- Sing and Play in the Park, 10-11 a.m., Ranier Park.
- Exercise, 10-11 a.m., Backus Auditorium gymnasium.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Wednesday Study Group, 10:15 a.m., Faith United Church of Christ.
- Community Market, 4-6:30 p.m., Backus Third Street parking lot.
- Sunbeams and Girl Guards, 4:30-6 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Free At Last, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Forestland Annex, lower level conference room.
- Community Band, 5 p.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- Stories in the Park, “Bears,” 6 p.m., Eighth Avenue green space (near community gardens).
- Men’s Non-Violence Group, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Elks Lodge Wednesday Meal, 6:30 p.m., Summer Picnic, oven fried chicken.
- Little Lambs (up to age 4) and King’s Kids (ages 5 and up), 6:30-7:15 p.m., Full Gospel Fellowship Church.
- Women of the Moose, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Texas Hold ‘Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Koochiching Masonic Lodge No. 270, A.F. & A.M., 7 p.m., 416 Third St.
- Downtowners Group, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

LOTTERY

Wednesday’s Daily 3 4, 0, 4	Wednesday’s Hot Lotto 6, 12, 14, 15, 40	Mega Ball 3
Wednesday’s Northstar Cash 3, 6, 21, 27, 29	Hot Ball 3	Wednesday’s Powerball 6, 9, 29, 52, 59
Wednesday’s Gopher 5 22, 33, 38, 40, 44	Saturday’s Mega Millions 10, 14, 24, 47, 60	Powerball 7

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June 18, 2014

Water Plant not in peril

There are rumors circulating in the community that the city’s water treatment plant and drinking water are in peril because of the high water on Rainy Lake.

Please know that, that rumor is unfounded. The water treatment plant is operating without any issues. The staff at the treatment plant has taken every precaution to insure that citizens who receive city water are able to enjoy the same safe great tasting water that is always produced.

Should the water supply become a concern you would be notified by city officials.

Again the City of International Falls water is very safe for drinking and all uses.

Thank you.

Bob Anderson

Mayor