

State of Agricultural Disaster Declared

Beaver County Council Declares State of Agricultural Disaster due to Drought Conditions

July 21, 2021 – Beaver County has declared a State of Agricultural Disaster in response to extreme drought conditions which have affected local producers.

An Agricultural Disaster Declaration can be used by municipalities to bring awareness to issues surrounding excessive moisture and drought which are having an impact on agricultural production. It should be noted that municipal declarations do not automatically trigger access to increased funding programs, Provincially or Federally. A Provincial declaration is necessary to trigger claim payments through AFSC.

“County Council has issued this declaration of Agricultural Disaster to encourage the Provincial and Federal Governments to initiate necessary programs that can provide relief to our local producers, and that it is done in a timely manner” stated Reeve Jim Kallal.

The weather has been very hot and dry over the last few weeks, which does factor in to crop development and potential yields. Across the County there has been some variability in the amount of moisture received and some areas may be a bit better off than other areas.

Canola crops have begun to bloom but due to timing of the heat, it will probably mean a 25-50% or more yield loss in some instances, where field stands were already thin. Cereal crops show a range of tolerance to this hot, dry weather but some are becoming burnt or showing reduced seed head development. Other crops in the County, such as peas and flax, may be a challenge to harvest due to the stunted growth which has occurred.

Grass also requires moisture to grow and pastures in the area are drying out, which is a concern for livestock producers. Hay production has been taking place however producers are not getting the anticipated number of bales or the volume of weight in hay that they expected off the fields and this could lead to reduced feed availability.

Moisture is needed, and rather quickly, to get crops and grasses that are still surviving in the field through to the end of the season.

For additional information please contact the Beaver County Agricultural Department at (780) 663-3730.

2021 Construction Schedule

Schedule is subject to change depending on the weather.

**ECD – Estimated Completion Date TBD – To Be Determined

TASK	START DATE	PROJECTED END DATE	UPDATE – JULY 28
TWP RD 480 TerraCem from HWY 36 to RGE RD 132 Phase 1 (Cement) Phase 2 (1 st lift of chip seal) Phase 3 (2 nd lift of chip seal) Phase 4 (Final sweep of chips)	May 25	May 31	Phase 1 – Complete Phase 2 – Complete Phase 3 – Phase 4 –
RGE RD 132 TerraCem from TWP RD 480 to P&H entrance Phase 1 (Cement) Phase 2 (1 st lift of chip seal) Phase 3 (2 nd lift of chip seal) Phase 4 (Final sweep of chips)	June 1	June 7	Phase 1 – Complete Phase 2 – Complete Phase 3 – Phase 4 –
RGE RD 132 TerraCem REPAIRS from P&H north to TWP RD 482 Phase 1 (Cement) Phase 2 (1 st lift of chip seal) Phase 3 (2 nd lift of chip seal) Phase 4 (Final sweep of chips)	June 8	June 10	Phase 1 – Phase 2 – Phase 3 – Phase 4 –
TWP RD 482 TerraCem REPAIRS from TWP RD 482 to HWY 36 Phase 1 (Cement) Phase 2 (1 st lift of chip seal) Phase 3 (2 nd lift of chip seal) Phase 4 (Final sweep of chips)	June 11	June 14	Phase 1 – Phase 2 – Phase 3 – Phase 4 –
TWP RD 512 TerraCem from RGE RD 191 to RGE RD 195 Phase 1 (Cement) Phase 2 (1 st lift of chip seal) Phase 3 (2 nd lift of chip seal) Phase 4 (Final sweep of chips)	June 21	July 13	Phase 1 – Complete Phase 2 – Complete Phase 3 – Phase 4 –
RGE RD 202 TerraCem from TWP RD 504 to TWP RD 510 Phase 1 (Cement) Phase 2 (1 st lift of chip seal) Phase 3 (2 nd lift of chip seal) Phase 4 (Final sweep of chips)	July 19	July 28	Phase 1 – Complete Phase 2 – Complete Phase 3 – Phase 4 –
Road Rehabilitation Project			
Shoulder Pulls (Contractor)	Aug 16	Sept 20	
Culvert Maintenance	Apr 19	Nov 1	Ongoing
Road Oiling (location TBD)	Aug 3	Aug 20	
Patching Oil Roads	May 3	Sept 27	Ongoing
Patching/Shoulder Pulls (location TBD)	Sept 7	Oct 8	
Backsloping- TBD	Oct 12	Nov 1	
Gravelling	Feb 3	Sept 28	Ongoing
Dust Control - 1st Application	May 3	May 21	Complete
Dust Control - 2nd Application (deadline to apply is July 31)	Aug 3	Aug 13	