



FARIBAULT COUNTY  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

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## Mailbox Policy

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**4/3/2019**

**NA**

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Date

Resolution Number

### BACKGROUND:

State and Federal regulations require that all mailboxes meet safety standards on roads reconstructed with State and Federal Aid. For consistency, the mailbox standards will also be applied to county funded road reconstruction projects. The safety standard applies only to roads with a speed limit over 40 mph.

Implementation of the mailbox standards on roads not being reconstructed is left to the discretion of the counties.

Essentially, the safety standards require that the mailbox support be no stronger than a 2" diameter steel pipe or 4" X 4" wooden post. No more than one mailbox and plastic newspaper receptacle can be mounted on a support. Supports for adjacent mailbox installations must be no closer than 30". Mailbox supports must be exterior to the road shoulder.

### POLICY STATEMENT:

**Existing Hazardous Supports:** The County will survey the county roads to identify existing mailbox supports which appear to be unlawful installations as defined in Minnesota Rules Chapter 8818. A letter informing the landowner that the installation appears to be unlawful will be sent.

**Existing or New Mailbox:** The landowner will be responsible for purchasing and installing the mailbox support and mailbox. Supports do not have to be the "swing away" pipe design, but must meet Minnesota Rules Chapter 8818 criteria.

The landowner is also responsible for future maintenance and repair. We recommend the use of MN/DOT's standard "swing away" pipe design of which a drawing is attached. We have found this design is not only relatively safe but also suffers less snow plow damage. We have kits for the "swing away" support available to you at cost, which is \$155.00. Please call our office if you would like to purchase one of these kits. The County will install the "swing away" kit and post at a cost of \$55.00

If a mailbox is installed which does not comply with the standards, the county will notify the landowner by letter. We will also attempt to meet with the landowner. If the mailbox is not brought into compliance within 60 days, the county will remove the mailbox support and replace with one meeting standards. The landowner will be charged for the cost of this work, up to \$205.00.

**County Reconstruction Projects:** The County will install the MN/DOT standard "swing away" pipe design at no cost to the landowners. Existing mailboxes will be salvaged and re-installed on the new support.

The mailbox support requirements will result in safer roads and reduced snow plow damage and we appreciate your cooperation. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call.