

March 2007

In 2006, Collin County entered the second year of its ten-year plan of upgrading our county roads from rock to asphalt. In the past, Public Works averaged 14-17 miles per year in road upgrades. In 2005, the commissioners' court approved plans to increase our upgrades to a minimum of 50 miles per year. That year, we surpassed this goal by upgrading 56 miles of roads. In 2006, we were able to upgrade 59 miles of our county roads. Listed below is the annual summary of activities from our Public Works Department for 2006:

- 59 miles road upgrades, rock to asphalt
- 21,140 tons of asphalt mix laid
- 17 miles of maintenance for existing asphalt roads
- 1,180 miles graded roads
- 375 miles of rock roads oiled
- 463 culverts installed
- 1,435 miles herbicide applied/sprayed
- 3,015 miles of roadsides mowed
- 2,798 signs repaired and installed
- 8 bridges repaired
- 406 miles of drainage ditches cleaned and cleared
- 388 health letters for dust control oiling addressed, down from 653 due to our asphalt program
- 221 culvert permits and inspections addressed
- 132 utility permits issued
- 94 SCS lakes "dams" mowed and maintained 2-3 times p/year
- 92 traffic counts taken
- 420 illegal dumpsites cleaned up
- 9 recycle centers operating
- 3 months of road repairs and debris removal associated with last May's Westminster tornado

As I stated last year at this time, the number that concerns me most is the number of illegal dumpsites. These sites can range from a spare tire in a ditch to a multi-acre site located on someone's private property. Our Fire Marshal's office has taken an aggressive approach in both the cleanup of these sites and the prosecution of those involved.

Also, on the first Saturday of every month, Collin County, in partnership with the North Texas Municipal Water District, invites county residents to dump their debris at the landfill in Melissa at no charge. All that is required is proof of residency and a tarp covering your load. For more information concerning this program, please check our website at [www.collincountytx.gov](http://www.collincountytx.gov).