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## Spring is Just Around the Corner

Lansing, Mich. – Despite the frigid temperatures Michigan residents have been experiencing, the County Road Association (CRA) of Michigan issued a reminder that spring – and pothole season – is just around the corner. By Michigan law road agencies enact seasonal weight restrictions in March, April and May, or whenever conditions warrant, in order to protect roads from damage.

"In most years seasonal weight restrictions have begun by early March," County Road Association of Michigan director Denise Donohue said. "The extreme cold temperatures and unusually deep frost this year have pushed the timelines back and signify what most expect to be a bumper crop of potholes this spring."

Knowing that seasonal weight restrictions are imminent, many business sectors can plan accordingly. Seasonal weight restrictions protect Michigan's local roads from excess weight when they are most susceptible to damage. Restrictions are imposed by county road agencies as soon as frost starts to leave the ground – often in February.

'We don't think of concrete and asphalt being vulnerable to damage" Donohue said, "But when retreating frost leaves the ground in coming weeks our already-deteriorated roads will be at their most vulnerable condition."

The County Road Association offers a website listing all county seasonal weight restrictions as they are imposed. The website – micountyroads.org/weight.php – provides commercial truck operators all information needed to comply with these temporary restrictions.

"The County Road Association of Michigan represents the state's 83 county road agencies that collectively maintain 75 percent of Michigan's road system, representing more than 90,000 miles of roads and 5,700 bridges – the fourth largest local road system in the nation.

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**Local Roads Matter:** to schools, to business, to emergency response times, to seniors, to health care, to families, to agriculture, to tourism, to revitalization, to the economy and **to every Michigan resident.**