

**CASTLE ROCK TOWNSHIP
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FARMINGTON, MN 55024
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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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January 17, 2008

To: Landowners of Castle Rock Township

Re: Mowing of Right-of-ways

Be advised that at the November 20th, 2007 regular meeting of the Castle Rock Board of Supervisors, a motion was made and passed to suspend the illegal use of the town's roads for agricultural purposes. Plowing and planting of non-permanent vegetative cover in the road right-of-way is a violation of MN State Statute 160.2715 (a2).

MN State Statutes are clear in their instructions to local road authorities regarding the use of road right-of-ways. Right-of-ways are to be maintained in permanent vegetative cover to enhance wildlife habitat, improve water quality and provide for safe sight distance, MN State Statute 160.232.

Farming township right-of-ways tend to create higher maintenance costs through increased siltation of culverts and decreases positive drainage of ditches resulting of softer sub grades of gravel roads. This is addressed in MN State Statute 160.2715 (a7).

The full right-of-way of Castle Rock Township roads will be mowed on or about August 1, 2008 as prescribed by law in MN State Statute 160.232 sub c & d. All crops illegally planted in these right-of-ways will be mowed. The majority of Castle Rock Township road right-of-way in the agricultural district has been established at 66 feet total with or 33 feet from the centerline of the town road. This has been done through original dedication of right-of-ways, maintenance, and the legal road registration of 2004.

Landowners not actively farming their own lands will be expected to contact their renters concerning this policy. Landowners with questions regarding the boundaries of the town's road should contact the Board of Supervisors of Castle Rock Township for delineation.

Sincerely,

Castle Rock Board of Supervisors