

## SPRING CHALLENGES

**TO: TOWNSHIP AND SMALL TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**FROM: GAIL BROCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS AND TOWNSHIPS**

**RE: FLOODING, MUD, CULVERTS**

I know many of you are wondering why in the world you agreed to serve on the township board and/or the town council as you deal with muddy streets, flooding streams and rivers, and washed out culverts. Just remember, 'this too shall pass'.

I know that is not much comfort to you. With that in mind, I want to just remind you of some things to keep in mind as you deal with these challenges.

**1. Document, Document, Document, Document.**

If you have not already done so, take pictures of the problem areas. Date those pictures and properly ID them as to location. This is very important in case there is a disaster declaration in your area.

**2. Properly close and barricade roads that are impassable or have culverts washed out.** Check with your county highway supt. as to the correct method of barricading and signing.

**3. Properly sign dangerous areas. Ie: water up to the shoulders on the road, deep potholes, etc.** Try to think of the best way to inform the traveling public.

**4. Encourage the residents of your townships to not haul heavy loads of grain or livestock until the roads are dried up.** This may take a phone call or a letter.

**5. Make all your decisions as a board of supervisors at a properly posted meeting (Post agenda 24 hours ahead of time\*) and have the clerk take good minutes.**

**\* If you have an emergency and do not have twenty four hours, address the problem and then make a complete report for the clerk's record book and read that report at the next township meeting.**

**Good luck to you, be safe, and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to call the office, 605 353 1439 or my cell, 605 350 2729.**