

Groveland Township Road district  
18661 Springfield Rd.( Shed)  
173 Washington St. (Business Office)  
P.O. Box 217  
Groveland, IL. 61535-0217  
(309)387-6812

Dear Postal Patron:

I am writing in regard to the mailbox installation at this address which does not meet current standards for safety to motorists.

Postal Bulletin 22206 (5/10/07) states with regard to mailbox installations:  
"Heavy metal posts, concrete posts, and miscellaneous items of farm equipment, such as milk cans filled with concrete, are examples of potentially dangerous supports. The ideal support is an assembly that bends or falls away when struck by a vehicle . . . .  
Postal Operation Manual 632.5 specifies postal regulations regarding construction and placement of mailboxes and supports on motorized city, rural, and contract delivery service routes."

The Roadside Design Guide, published by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), states that "Limited accident data have shown that mailbox supports can contribute to the severity of an accident. Further, the AASHTO publication, A Guide for Erecting Mailboxes on Highways, contains information on the location and installation of mailbox and its supports on the roadside. Briefly, the following guidelines should be used for mailbox supports:

- Mailbox supports which should be considered are nominal 4 inch by 4 inch or 4 inch diameter wood posts, or a metal post with a strength no greater than a 2 inch diameter standard strength steel pipe, embedded no more than 2 feet into the ground.
- Mailbox-to-support attachments should ideally prevent mailboxes from separating from their supports under vehicle impacts.
- Multiple mailbox installations should meet the same criteria as single mailbox installations. Multiple support installations should have their supports separated a minimum distance equal to three-fourths of their heights above ground. This will reduce interaction between adjacent mailboxes and supports.

Because your mailbox is private property, we do not intend to remove or change it to a safer type. However, in the interest of public safety and to avoid any potential liability if struck by an errant vehicle, we are requesting that you consider changing the mailbox to a safer type or working with the postal service or our staff, to relocate the existing box to a safer location. We fully recognize the desire of property owners to have aesthetically pleasing mailboxes and to counteract vandalism by having stout supports. However, it is simply our goal to point out potential safety hazards when they do exist.

Hopefully, you understand our desire to improve safety throughout our township.

Please feel free to call with any questions.

Very truly yours,



Example of wrong type of mailbox

