

## **Guidelines for Petitioners for Natural Beauty Roads and Streets**

The Natural Beauty Road Act empowers County Road Commissions (CRC) and legislative bodies of cities and villages to dedicate county-local roads and city/village streets as Michigan Natural Beauty Roads. Specific procedures are to be followed by interested citizens when recommending the designation of potential natural beauty roads or streets to their respective CRC or city/village legislative body.

Roads must be county-local roads, city streets, or village streets to be considered for designation. They must not be collectors or primary roadways. Status of roads may be obtained from the CRC or legislative body of the city or village.

At least twenty-five of 1) landowners in a township, 2) residents of a city, or 3) residents of a village may apply by petition to their CRC or respective legislative body for designation of a county-local road or street (or portion thereof) as a natural beauty road. Signers do not need to live on this road. Petitions should state clearly the name, location, length, and exact beginning and ending points of the road and should be supported by a statement of justification for the request for designation.

Within six months after the petition is received, the CRC or legislative body shall hold a public hearing to consider the described road or street as a natural beauty road. Within 30 days after the public hearing, the CRC or legislative body will announce its decision as to whether the road or street shall or shall not be designated as a natural beauty road.

The designation of a road or street as a "Natural Beauty Road" will not curtail or cut-back on existing road maintenance programs; will not prohibit the application of sound forest management in the right-of-way; and will not affect the right of a public utility to control vegetation in connection with the maintenance, repair, or replacement of facilities which were constructed in a road, or across a road, prior to its designation

### **For Further Information Contact:**

Natural Heritage Program, Wildlife Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources,  
Box 30444, Lansing, MI, 48909-7944.

Telephone – (517) 284-WILD (9453)

Fax – (517) 373-6705

E-mail – [DNR-Wildlife@michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-Wildlife@michigan.gov)

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*(Revised 1-6-2015)*

# EXAMPLE PETITION

TO DESIGNATE A MICHIGAN NATURAL BEAUTY ROAD, under part 357, Natural Beauty Roads, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994, PA451, as amended.

To the Board of County Commissioners of \_\_\_\_\_ County or Legislative Body of the city/village of \_\_\_\_\_,

We, the undersigned freeholders of \_\_\_\_\_ Township or the City/Village of \_\_\_\_\_, located in \_\_\_\_\_ County, do hereby petition that the following county-local road or street of Michigan be designated a natural beauty road in accordance with the above act, and that the Board or legislative body set the time for holding a public hearing to consider designating the said road or street as a natural beauty road, and proceed to do all the things necessary under said act to designate said road a natural beauty road of Michigan.

Name of Road: \_\_\_\_\_

Portion of Road sought to be designated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total mileage of road sought to be designated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (at least 25)	Address	Date

Name and address of Circulator of Petition: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_