

SALFORD SAVES ON DRAINAGE REPAIRS

Salford Township has saved residents and taxpayers more than \$600,000 on drainage restoration. Last year, Salford discovered that three large drainage culverts, on Fretz, Barndt, and Schultz Roads, had deteriorated to the point of being a safety hazard. These corrugated steel culverts, have been in place for 40 to 50 years. The bottoms had corroded away and adjacent fill had washed out. The initial estimate from the Township Engineer to replace these culverts using conventional materials and methods was approximately \$750,000.

Salford's Roadmaster, Larry Anderson, worked with the Township Engineer to reduce the costs to manageable size. In exploring alternatives, Larry came across a method of reinforcing the existing culverts, which the Township Engineer approved.

Using contractors and Township personnel, the deteriorated sections were cut away, new stone fill was added to the washed-out areas, reinforcing steel was placed, and the entire culvert section was filled and surfaced with Gunnite, the sprayed concrete used for swimming pool construction. Total cost to date has been approximately \$24,000. Next spring, the Township road crew will install a third culvert on Schultz Road, adjacent to the existing one, to increase water flow capacity. It is anticipated that the entire cost, including repair and new work, will be less than \$60,000, thereby saving the Township taxpayers between \$600,000 and \$700,000.

This is just one more example of how the Township Supervisors, by application of unconventional thinking, continue to deliver quality service to the residents at low cost.