



## My “to do” list grows

In addition to my daily planner, I have a “to do” list. During a time management class, we were told to keep a “to do” list so that we would be sure to accomplish everything that each of us needed to do. Not only that, but we are supposed to prioritize the list with the most important items to do at the top of the “to do” list so we would do them first.

In reality, I make “to do” lists so I don’t forget what I’ve been asked “to do” by you, my constituents, whether it is a road or bridge issue or a county issue. Robert Moss, District 2 Foreman, also keeps a “to do” list from contacts and calls he receives. Furthermore, he has my “to do” list of bridge and road concerns that I have received. We maintain several types of “to do” lists which include such things as closed bridges to rebuild, closed roads to reopen, major roads to shale, major roads to rock, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) repairs to complete, federal Emergency Relief (ER) repairs to finish, emergency watershed programs (EWP) to identify and complete, legislative issues to monitor and many more.

Maybe “to do” lists are helpful, but they are also a pain. Once something is on my “to do” list, I have to do it whether I want to do it or not. There is something about having things written down that makes them more compelling. It is hard to rationalize something away when it is on a list of things “to do”.

District 2 has been working hard to finish up the infrastructure damages sustained from the June 2008 and September 2008 floods, consequently the FEMA and ER “to do” lists were actually dwindling in size. This FEMA “to do” list still has two major bridges to be built but the actually road repairs were nearly completed. It was an awesome feeling marking off each and every item on the list when they were completed, a real sense of accomplishment. However, collecting the money is another issue on yet another “to do” list.

Now, with over 14-inches of rain in the past couple weeks, Robert’s “to do” list and my “to do” have had to be reprioritized. In fact, a completely new April/May 2008 flood “to do” list is being made by Robert and the list continues to grow. Robert has already identified over 50 areas damaged and he hasn’t even covered a fourth of the district infrastructure.

Unfortunately, several bridge projects, as well as shale and rock projects that were scheduled to begin this spring, summer and fall will have to be moved down on the “do to” lists. Believe me; I do not like this anymore than you like it. Nevertheless, emergency priorities must be moved to the top of the lists, especially with crops to be harvested and planted in the next 60 days.

I have places to go, people to see and things to do. But there is one thing I can mark off my “to do” list now. I have just written this column and it is no longer something that I need “to do” this week!

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy R. Bobbitt, Commissioner  
Grant County District 2