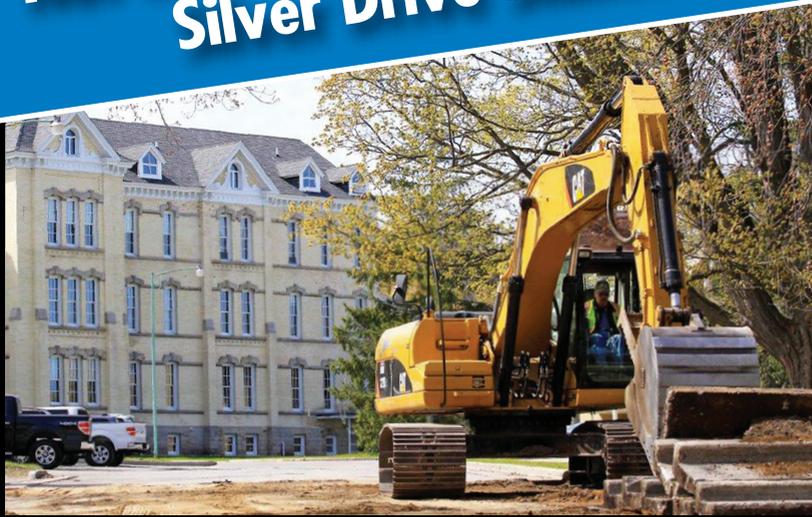


# Not a "Common" Excavation: Silver Drive Shines



**PROJECT NAME:** Silver Drive at Grand Traverse Commons

**CHALLENGE:** Deep muck excavations in wetland, maintaining complicated traffic patterns with lack of viable detour options, and reconfigure intersection for traffic control.

**SOLUTION:** Deep excavation to remove muck, woven geo-textile and stone to stabilize sub-grade, provide pass through drainage for wetland areas, and reconstruct "T" intersection at 11th Street and Silver Drive for traffic control.

**LOCATION:** Traverse City, MI

**OWNER:** City of Traverse City

**CONTRACT PRICE:** \$935,000

**CONTACT ENGINEER:** Tim Lodge, City Engineer  
(231) 922-4455

**PARTNERS:** Bella Concrete, Northslope,  
PK Contracting, Give-Em-A-Break, Traverse Outdoor

**SELF PERFORMED:** 76%

When Team Elmer's was contracted to work on the Silver Drive project — revamping a little-used road near the south end of the Grand Traverse Commons and connecting it to Silver Lake Road in order to generate a southern entrance to the Commons — we were prepared for a messy job. A wetland environment and a profusion of deep muck meant more attention to detail was critical for completing this complicated job.

Tasked with muck removal, as well as landscaping, storm sewer construction, area restoration, and asphalt paving, Team Elmer's held their ground when it came to revamping the roadway, which stretches for 0.76 miles through Grand Traverse Commons. Furthermore, a lack of viable detour options and a plethora of out-of-town traffic due to the popularity of Commons' shops made for a logistics ballet. Team Elmer's representatives were charged with managing complicated traffic patterns and helping drivers navigate the maze of streets in order to reach their destinations.

Team Elmer's dove right in — literally, doing a 14-foot excavation in order to remove muck, and installing drainage and stabilization of the wetland environment. Lastly, Team Elmer's reconstructed the intersection at 11th Street and Silver Drive to control traffic and reinstate order and ease of navigation for local drivers and out-of-towners alike.

Whether it's a straightforward asphalt job or a messy project with huge hassle potential to avoid, Team Elmer's is ready to roll up their sleeves and excel at both.

**TEAM**  
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