

**From:** [Nordholm, Gail \[DOT\]](#)  
**To:** [Nordholm, Gail \[DOT\]](#)  
**Subject:** Geo-Synthetics in Road Damage Mitigation  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 08, 2010 1:15:00 PM

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**TO:** County Engineers, City Representatives, and Consultants

**CC:** District Local Systems Engineers, Service Bureau,  
and Office of Local Systems, Bob Sperry & Tom McDonald at InTrans

**FROM:** Office of Local Systems

**SUBJECT:** Geo-Synthetics in Road Damage Mitigation

**DATE:** September 8, 2010

The following is being sent on behalf of Bob Sperry at InTrans. If you have any questions, **please do not reply to this note**. Instead, you may contact the person shown below.

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**Geo-synthetics in Road Damage Mitigation**

Retired Prof. Emeritus, University of Vermont, Richard Downer is on the agenda at MINK on September 30<sup>th</sup> and in Rapid City, SD for an regional LTAP meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the use of geo-synthetics in road damage mitigation. Iowa LTAP believes that because his travel expenses are already paid to the area, that FEMA would cover his expenses to stay in this area longer to present to local audiences, if there is enough interest. FEMA apparently supports the use of geo-synthetics at the local agency level for flood mitigation repairs and recently provided this service in Nebraska.

The Nebraska LTAP utilized his services during the repairs of their late summer flooding and took him to about a half dozen county garages where he did a 4 hour presentation to crew level employees, supervisors and elected officials. It was extremely well received and he is a very down to earth presenter.

Iowa LTAP may have the opportunity to schedule presentations for Dr. Downer between the mentioned conferences before his services are offered to other

states. All that is needed is set up the locations (LTAP will help), audience and assist with A/V needs (although he has his own PC and LCD projector).

If you would be interested in attending (or hosting) such a seminar, please contact Bob Sperry or Tom McDonald **not later than Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>** with the approximate number you would like to have in attendance at this. We would try to schedule locations generally from south to north in western and perhaps central Iowa, leaving some dates available for other states.

Bob Sperry – [rsperry@iastate.edu](mailto:rsperry@iastate.edu)

Or

Tom McDonald – [tmcdonal@iastate.edu](mailto:tmcdonal@iastate.edu)

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[http://www.iowadot.gov/local\\_systems/mailing/main\\_mailing.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/mailing/main_mailing.htm)