

## Quick checks for aggregate quality

Local aggregate supplies are usually the least expensive. To protect your investment in maintenance and reconstruction, you need to make sure you're getting the right quality. Testing against state specs is the surest way, but you can also evaluate local aggregate by look and feel.

Quality aggregate meets specified limits on certain characteristics according to Bruce Pfister, WisDOT Chief Geotechnical Engineer:

- *Wear* – resistance to abrasion
- *Soundness* – resistance to chemical reaction
- *Liquid limit* – moisture content at which it starts acting like a fluid
- *Plasticity* – moisture content at which it can be worked
- *Percent fractured faces* – 45% or more with at least one cracked side
- *Gradation* – variety of particle sizes from 1½ inch to dusty fines

See the chart on page 8 for common aggregate types in the state and what to look for at the pit or quarry.



## Calendar

Specific details and locations for workshops are sent to all **Crossroads** recipients. For additional copies, or more information, call the T.I.C at 800/442-4615.

**Roadway Maintenance** This workshop is your opportunity to improve your street and road maintenance operations. It will include pavement maintenance techniques, rehabilitation and recycling, and spring maintenance activities.

March 11	Green Bay	March 17	Cable
March 12	Brookfield	March 18	Eau Claire
March 13	Barneveld	March 19	Tomah
March 16	Rhineland		

**Chain Saw Safety, Maintenance, and Operation** A repeat at two locations of the December workshop for those unable to attend due to class size limits or bad weather. Course includes personal protective equipment, proper maintenance, and the most effective chain saw techniques. A morning classroom session followed by an outdoor demonstration in the afternoon.

March 23	Wauwatosa	March 24	Barneveld
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**Pavement Management for Local Roads** This workshop is offered in two parts to meet a range of training needs for those using PASER and PASERWARE to implement pavement management. Part 1, the morning of March 16, covers the basics of pavement management, how to rate pavements using PASER, and an introduction to the logic of ROADWARE. Part 2, the afternoon of March 16 and the morning of March 17, includes demonstrations of PASERWARE 1.0 with an opportunity to try your hand in the computer lab testing various maintenance strategies by running simulations with several data bases, including your own if available. Register for part one, part two, or both as needed.

March 16 & 17, Madison

**Asphalt Pavement Maintenance Demonstration** A day of asphalt pavement maintenance demonstrations that begins with short presentations covering a variety of pavement maintenance techniques, followed by site visits to see those techniques being applied. You will see seal coats, crack seal, pothole patching

with the new spray patch machine, milling, and surface patches and overlays. The City of Monroe will host the demonstration in cooperation with the cities and counties of south central Wisconsin, Wisconsin Asphalt Pavers Association, Wisconsin DOT, Federal Highway Administration, and Transportation Information Center. Advance registration is required.

June 17, Monroe

### UW-Madison Seminars

Local government officials are eligible for a limited number of scholarships for the following engineering courses in Madison. For details, use the form on page 7 for details, call 800/442-4615, or e-mail: [ranum@engr.wisc.edu](mailto:ranum@engr.wisc.edu).

**Environmental Impacts of Highway Projects**, March 2-4  
**Managing the Development of Transportation Projects**, March 12-13

**Introduction to GPS**, April 14-18

**Traffic Engineering Fundamentals**, April 21-23

**Drainage System Design**, April 27-30

**Using HEC/RAS to Compute Water Surface Profiles**, May 4-8

**Fleet Maintenance Management**, May 27-28

### Other Training Opportunities

**ITE Traffic Engineering in Small Communities Workshop**, April 2 at the Marriott Hotel at I-94 and Blue Mound Road in Brookfield. For information call John Bieberitz of HNTB at 414-359-2300.

**Controlling Erosion during Construction** at five locations in Wisconsin. Includes current regulations, factors affecting erosion, ways to control erosion, and how to develop a site plan. Call UW CALS Outreach Services at (608) 262-5088 for more information and to register.

March 3	Rice Lake	March 17	Janesville
March 11	Minocqua	March 24	Sheboygan
March 12	Wausau		