

Ditch prevents flooding but creates access issue

Written by Deb Egenberger
Thursday, 22 July 2010 20:32 -

Koenig asks for easier way to get to her door.

It was almost a year ago when Lucille (Whipple) Koenig asked the Brady village board to do something about the water running down Norris Court and Harrison Street into her yard and eventually into her basement.

Heavy rains caused washouts on the roads and the water formed a lake in Koenig's yard multiple times last year.

"I'm happy to say I haven't had water in my yard this year," Koenig told village trustees during their regular monthly meeting on July 14. "At least not from it running down the street."

Village utility superintendent Keith Wagnitz gouged out a ditch on the south side of Commercial Street and around the corner on Matthewson to help keep the water from Koenig's property at that intersection.

Culverts were also installed to direct the water toward a state drainage system along Highway 30.

Koenig said she's pleased she hasn't had to battle the water and the silt running into her basement.

But now she and visitors to her house have difficulty getting to the door.

"We can't even park along Commercial Street because it takes a four-wheel drive to get out of there," she said.

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The ditch is deep enough that walking across it to the back deck of Koenig's home is difficult for an older person. Same for the front door, she said.

Koenig said she plans to have a foot bridge constructed over the ditch from Matthewson to a deck on the east side of her home but she'd like the village to provide access on the north side.

"I don't care what has to be done and I don't want you guys to have to spend a lot of money doing it ," Koenig said, "but I really need to have better access to the door on that side of my house."

Wagnitz suggested a culvert running east and west with gravel over it to provide a place to drive or walk over the ditch.

"The only way to absolutely get rid of this problem is to create a paving district and pave the whole road," said board chairman Bill Gengenbach.

Since that doesn't seem feasible right now, he said, the village is willing to try other things.

In other business, trustees:

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