

## Glenda Wiles

---

**From:** Sherri Wandler Himes <sherriwandler@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 25, 2015 10:20 AM  
**To:** Ray Hawk; Greg Chilcott; J.R. Iman; Jeff Burrows; Doug Schallenberger; governor@mt.gov; Glenda Wiles  
**Cc:** Melissa Saville; albertscotleonard@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Granite Creek Road

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you in regards to Granite Creek Road in Florence. This road is extremely dangerous. I currently do not live on Granite Creek Road, but still own property on Granite Creek and regularly visit. I have 17 family members that live on this road. I have tried contacting the Road Department and spoke with "Dusty" that told me "he has common sense on his side" and this road has not gotten narrower. This is not true, the road has deteriorated due to the population increase driving it. My family has owned property on Granite Creek since the 1800s. I have grown up driving/being driven on this road. I have seen the changes over the years and the road is much worse. I am very offended that Dusty feels he has more common sense on this issue than I do. I do not appreciate someone implying I am stupid.

This road is so dangerous that the road department has felt the need to place a "chains required" sign at the bottom of it. This is not a solution. Two accidents have already occurred this season alone. Recently the road department had cones along the side due to caving in. This road is even impassable for emergency vehicles. This is not acceptable!

Dusty has also informed me that there are only 20 homes along Granite Creek. This is completely false! After I told him that this is false and he couldn't count if he believed that, he hung up on me. I'm not sure if he is not including the roads that come off of Granite Creek. Sapphire Ridge Road originally used Hidden Valley for access, but are now required to also drive Granite Creek. Dusty was very rude and unprofessional. This road is not taken seriously, I understand he doesn't drive it everyday and doesn't seem to care what the residents are going through. It's too narrow to meet another car in most places, especially during icy conditions. Dusty said paving would not improve the road, but at least you could meet another car if it was widened for paving. It's not just bad in the winter either. Washboards in the summer make it almost impassable and it destroys vehicles. It needs to be widened, graded more, plowed more and sanded more or paved and plowed during the winter. Please come drive this road at 7:30 in the morning and meet all the parents taking their children out to school. You will be surprised.

I'm not sure anyone understands just how difficult it is to put chains on during bad weather especially with small children waiting in the car or for elderly. Many residents that live on Granite Creek are not physically able to put on chains. Some of my family members are afraid to drive children to school with the road conditions. How would you feel, if you were required to put chains on and off every time you leave your house or go home? Would this be an acceptable solution to you? This is a county road and the residents' safety is no less important than residents on any other county road.

How many accidents must happen on this road before some improvement is made? Please require something be done to make this road safe for year around travel!

**A concerned citizen,**

**Sherri Wandler Himes**

**Sent from Mail for Windows 10**