

Name of Project: **Ada's Village Trail Tunnel**

Owner: Ada Township  
Contact Person: Mr. George Haga,  
Township Supervisor, (616) 676-9191

Completion: Tunnel - November 29, 2003  
Final Paving - May 1, 2004



*Completed Project*

Dollar Value: Estimated \$202,700  
Actual \$219,955.29

Project Team: Steven C. Groenenboom, P.E., Project Manager  
Alan Pennington, P.E., Project Engineer  
Ralph Den Hartigh, P.E. Structural Engineer  
Deborah Poeder, Railroad Agreements

Challenges: Train shipping schedule required a design that could be constructed over the four-day Thanksgiving Weekend.

Moore & Bruggink investigated several options to allow a safe crossing of Ada's Village at the RailAmerica Railroad. The options included a signalized surface crossing, reconstruction of the existing railroad bridge with a wider span, or tunneling under the railroad. It was determined the tunneling option would provide the safest crossing. Since the train traffic could not be detoured or even delayed, the railroad required all construction to be complete over the four-day Thanksgiving weekend. The contractor began work following the last train on Wednesday, and completed the tunnel and placed new railroad tracks by Saturday afternoon - two days ahead of the first train which arrived on schedule on Monday morning.



*Precast Tunnel Sections*



*Wednesday, 11/26/03  
Start Construction*



*Wednesday Afternoon  
Excavation Complete*



*Thanksgiving Morning  
Place Precast Sections*



*Thanksgiving Afternoon  
Install Wingwalls*



*Friday  
Backfill & RR Base*



*Saturday  
Replace RR Tracks*



*Monday Morning  
First Train Arrives*

**MOORE & BRUGGINK, INC.**  
**Project History**