

## **ZIP ALONG US 12**

<http://www.us12heritagetrail.org>

This is a great opportunity for 3rd grade through High School classrooms to display their knowledge about local history and get authentic practice in using digital cameras and digital audio voice recorders. We welcome multiple classrooms from the same Zip Code and hope to have participants from all across US 12. Other youth organizations like Scouts or 4 H are also welcome to participate.

Traversing approximately 212 miles through the State of Michigan, US-12 retains a rich historic character and offers the traveling motorist a unique opportunity to view the many intrinsic historic, cultural, and recreational assets along this east-west corridor. Today, the US-12 corridor continues to provide many of the same functions as it first offered the settlers of Michigan; access to adjacent communities, connectivity between major urban destinations, and access to the many cultural and recreational opportunities which exist in southern Michigan.

This project will allow students of grades 4- high school, along the historical and present-day US-12 to create a “snapshot” of their ZIP code, as it looks today, that include elements of community history, geography, and culture. The project allows students to explore questions:

- 1) What do our communities look like?
- 2) How have communities changed over time?
- 3) What groups make up our communities?
- 4) What part did and does US 12 play in our community?

The projects will be displayed on the US 12 Web Site sponsored by the US 12 Heritage Trail Association <http://www.us12heritagetrail.org> click on Trail Tales and then Zip Along. They will also be displayed at events/festivals along the US-12 Heritage Trail, presentations at local community meetings and schools. Each school participating will receive a free PBS Video, “Moccasins to Main Street” to use for introducing the students to US 12.

To participate, teachers will find the registration form at <http://www.us12heritagetrail.org/zipalongus12.asp>

If they have questions they can contact Sharon Scott, story manager, at [sascott2@comcast.net](mailto:sascott2@comcast.net) or 517-456-7198.