

TOWN OF DANVILLE – WINTER MAINTENANCE POLICY

Town of Danville has developed a Winter Maintenance Policy to help explain what takes place during winter storms.

GENERAL

The Town of Danville Highway Department is responsible for maintaining approximately sixteen (16) miles of paved Town Road, eighty-three (83) miles of gravel roads, the Recycling Center, various public parking lots, Fire Stations, Rescue Building, Town Hall, North Danville Community Center and one and one half (1.5) miles of sidewalks.

The Highway Department's objective is to keep the roads as safe as possible during the busiest traffic commute time, which extends from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Therefore, from 8:00 PM to 4:00 AM, there is apt to be no staff or trucks out on the roads, unless called out for Emergency or hazard. The Town of Danville does not have a "clear road" policy. As a result, there will be times where the roads will not be clear of snow and ice.

During snow clearing operations, it is important that motor vehicles do not park next to the highway or sidewalk or in town rights of way to interfere with snow or ice removal operations. They can be towed at owner's expense.

Children cannot be allowed to build forts, tunnels or any other similar structures in roadside snow banks.

Motorists need to respect snowplows and give them plenty of room. Do not follow so close that they can't see you from their mirrors. Also, homeowners shoveling their driveways should move back when they see an approaching plow truck, not only because of flying debris from plow but because the driver could lose control in slippery road conditions.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO ASSIST IN THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF WINTER OPERATIONS

- A. Weather forecasts, are accessible by internet, local radio and television stations.
- B. Assistance in assessing local road conditions also comes from Caledonia County Sheriff's Office, State Police, Town Staff observations and calls from concerned residents.
- C. Fire and Rescue personnel also assist in notifying the Highway Department on road conditions when they are out.

OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR WINTER STORMS

- A. During the winter period, extending generally from November through April, the Highway Department's main goal is the control of snow and ice on Town highways. To accomplish this task, it takes preparation, training and orientation for new employees, post-winter follow-up on all procedures, getting equipment ready and stockpiling sand and salt.
 - 1. Operations using the resources identified and judgment based on experience of the Highway Foreman will determine the appropriate level and timing of snow and ice control to be performed by the Highway Department. The Foreman will contact employees in the department by telephone. There will be times when the roads will be snow covered or icy. Although we have come up with a plan for winter operations, all storms are unique and unpredictable, so operations sometimes have to be altered. The

School bus Coordinator can request a road condition update early in the morning to aid the school to make a timely decision to close or delay.

2. Materials

- Stockpiles of sand and salt are stored at our Town Garage facility located on 448 Peacham Road for use during the winter months.
- We stockpile approximately 7500 yds. of sand and strive to have 150 -200 tons of salt on hand.

3. Snow Plowing and Sanding/Salting Operations

- The Highway Department is staffed with 6.3 employees, including the Foreman. At times there may be equipment failure or an employee out sick. Having 6 employees allows us to split the Town into 6 plow routes which take about 4.5 hours per run. However, at the times we are not fully staffed with persons or equipment routes may take longer. Routes have been established to provide highest priority coverage to roads with the heaviest usage (the major arteries) and history of accidents. Bus routes also play a big part in the planning.

POLICIES & LAWS

In addition, Title 19, Section 1111, Vermont Statutes Annotated, Permitted Use of the Town Right-Of-Way, make it unlawful to construct a fence or buildings, or deposit material of any kind within, or in any way affecting the grade of a highway right-of-way or to obstruct a ditch, culvert or drainage course that drains a highway, or grade the land adjacent to a highway so as to divert the flow of water onto the highway right-of-way without a permit from the Town Select Board.

Mail Boxes (see policy on danvillevermont.org or at town clerk's office)

Snow should not be blown/plowed or shoveled into or across the Town's highways. (23 V.S.A. 1126a)

COORDINATION/COMMUNICATION/PUBLIC INFORMATION

Anyone with concerns or problems regarding road conditions during normal working hours from (6:00 AM - 3:00 PM) may call the Town Garage at 802-684-3362 and leave a message. You may also call the Town Office as they are able to reach us by Town radio. Town Office is open Monday thru Friday (8:00 AM to 4:00 PM). You also may contact the Highway Foreman on his cell phone at 802-745-7706.

Not every road can be serviced first. Remember it takes +/- 4.5 hours to complete a route once. Also, if you live at a place where a town truck needs to turn around, leave adequate space to do so.

This adopted policy is in force and effect by the Danville Selectboard on December 20, 2018. This policy may be amended at any time with the proper notice by the Danville Selectboard.

Attest: Wendy Somers, Town Clerk Wendy M. Somers

Danville Selectboard Members:

[Signature] Chair
[Signature] Vice Chair
[Signature]
[Signature]