

## The Town of Dunn Winter Road Management Policy and Procedures

### I. Snow Removal Procedures

The general goal of the Town of Dunn is to keep the roads passable during the most heavily traveled periods of the day. Maintenance is typically only activated for snowfalls greater than 2 inches which is unlikely to melt. Roads to be plowed are prioritized by traffic volume and logical routing including major route sections of the Town which provide emergency access for fire, police and medical services. Special attention is directed towards hills, curves, and roads within 75 feet of an intersection or stop sign to assist vehicles in stopping.

In the event of a freezing rain forecast, two hours prior to the expected event, salt is applied to all town roads, not just the curves, hills, and intersections.

Each road in each event must be judged on its own merits with consideration for factors such as:

- a. the traction needed by the traveling public using that particular roadway at that particular time.
- b. the current and future expected temperatures
- c. the amount and rate of snow fall
- d. moisture content
- e. wind velocity

On each road the three priorities are:

- a. Make the Road Passable: by clearing one lane in each direction.
- b. Widen the Lanes: out past the edge of shoulders, especially in drift prone areas, and apply salt. Salt is applied at problem locations on paved roads including intersections (where stopping on the road is required), curves, hills, bridges and straight sections of the heavily traveled roads.
- c. Clean Up: involves the removal of ice and slush from the roadway after the salt and sun have been allowed to work. Clean up activities may be postponed when temperatures drop well below zero, as salt becomes ineffective at deicing.

The Town has three snow removal vehicles and three operators; therefore, coverage and cycle time is limited. The Town has three plowing routes and each route is typically plowed twice and salted once. Generally, it takes the plows approximately five hours per round to cover each of the three routes.

### II. Public Announcements

Wisconsin's basic speeding law prohibits driving at a speed "greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions." In other words, motorists must always drive at a safe speed. What a safe speed is will depend on the circumstances. For instance, 55 miles per hour might be safe on a bright, sunny day, with clear roads. But if it's dark, snowing, and the roads are icy, going 55 miles per hour could be dangerous and a violation of the basic speeding law.

Additionally, snowplows typically travel at 10 – 25 mph, which in many cases is significantly slower than posted speeds. Please be aware the snowplow driver's field of vision is severely restricted. It is illegal to follow a snowplow closer than 200 feet on any roadway having a posted speed limit of more than 35 mph when the snowplow is engaged in snow and ice removal/treatment. If you can't see their mirrors, they can't see you! The snowplow may make sudden stops, weave around obstacles – (i.e. parked cars

and mailboxes), and backup and turn unexpectedly. Although it is legal to pass a snowplow, precautionary care should be taken when attempting this maneuver because it is often very difficult to see past the snowplow due to the snow cloud created from plowing.

### III. Personal Properties

- a. Please call the Town to report any damages to the Public Works Department. Mailboxes and fences damaged during snow removal will be evaluated on a case by case basis. Only mailboxes that were properly located and installed, and which were damaged by actual contact with Town equipment will be repaired at the Town's expense, not to exceed \$25. The mail box owner is responsible for repair or replacement of the mailbox or fence if the mailbox was damaged by the pressure or weight of the plowed snow. Replaced mailboxes, by owner or the Town must comply with the Town of Dunn Mailbox Policy.
- b. As snow is plowed from roadways, windrows will be created at the end of driveways and they are the property owner's responsibility to clear.
- c. Residents are also reminded that it is unlawful for them to plow or blow snow from driveways onto or across roads.
- d. The Town requests residents to please remove parked vehicles from roads and right of ways to assist in snow removal during snow events.
- e. Please place your garbage carts in your driveway apron the morning of garbage pickup and not before. Please remove your garbage carts as soon as possible after garbage pick-up. When carts are placed in the roadway, they may become damaged and are the responsibility of the home owner to replace.
- f. The Town Public Works department personnel may assist stranded motorists by contacting law enforcement/emergency personnel but will not attempt to remove stuck or stranded vehicles except in extreme emergency situations.