

No:
2000-03
Date: December 1, 2010

Policy: Snow Removal and Ice Control

Governing Laws: RSA 231:92-a, RSA 507-B: 2-b,

Approval Date: June 13, 2000

Next Review Date: **November 1, 2012**

POLICY: It is the goal and intent of the Town of Hancock to provide timely, efficient and cost-effective winter maintenance, snow removal and ice control on the roadways of the municipality for the safety and benefit of the Town's residents and the general motoring public.

PROCEDURE: The objective stated above will be achieved by implementation and execution of the procedures and tasks outlined in the Town of Hancock Winter Operations Snow Removal and Ice Control Procedures. Due to the many variables that are inherent in New England weather, each storm and/or weather event may require slightly different effort and/or emphasis on any number of maintenance tasks, which together, determine the overall winter maintenance, snow removal or ice control strategy.

LEVEL OF SERVICE: It is not possible to maintain a black snow and ice-free road or sidewalk during a storm. It is the intention of the Town to provide practical, safe access to homes, businesses and municipal facilities during winter storms. The Town of Hancock does not have a bare roads policy and as such citizens and motorists should expect to find snow-covered areas during and after the winter storm.

It is our policy to start to conduct snow removal operations upon accumulations of three inches of snowfall, measured at the Hancock Highway Department. The Director of Public Works may, at his or her discretion based upon weather information reports, elect to not remove snow until greater or lesser accumulations. Snow accumulations of greater than 3 inches may be allowed before plowing operations begin during the overnight hours of 12 midnight to 5 AM. All routes will begin from the Highway Department and the operators will work systematically around their respective routes. No operator will leave his or her assigned route unless he/she has the approval of the Director of Public Works or his/her appointed designee.

Pre-treatment and ice control may be addressed prior to the actual storm beginning, during the actual storm as seen effective, and preceding the storm. It should be noted that salt has a much slower effect on melting snow and ice at temperatures below 18 degrees, and may not be applied until it is warmer.

After the storm has finished, treatment of the roads will begin when all the routes have been cleaned up. Treatment may consist of sand, sand/salt mix, or straight salt. The Director of Public Works or his/her designee will determine the most appropriate material to be use based on current weather, expected weather, time of year and temperature.

During storms of a long duration, the Director of Public Works may elect to bring the crews in for a rest period, this rest period should occur late at night after the majority of traffic has ceased. This period will last no longer then 4 hours and may last for a shorter time period if weather conditions change. It will be the responsibility of all operators to be sure and get the needed rest during this period.

During periods of snow fall rates of less then 1 inch per hour the Director of Public Works or his designee may elect to shut down snow removal operations. Current weather conditions, weather forecasts, as well as day of the week will be considered before operations will be shut down.

COMMAND: Direction of all winter maintenance activities for the Town of Hancock is vested with the Director of Public Works or his or her designee.

EXECUTION: The policy outlined above is intended to serve as the normal operating procedures for winter maintenance, snow removal and/or ice control for the Town of Hancock. One or more of the following, which may delay or prevent the implementation of this policy, may affect all or any part of this Policy:

- Equipment Breakdown
- Snow Accumulation in Excess of 1" Per Hour
- Freezing Rain or Other Icing Conditions
- Traffic Congestion
- Emergencies
- Personnel illness

ADOPTION:

The Town of Hancock has adopted the Winter Operations Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy effective June 13, 2000 and reviewed in October 2003 and November 2006, November 2008 and November 2010. All residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the content as it describes the condition that one might expect to encounter before, during and following a winter storm event.

BOARD OF
SELECTMEN
HANCOCK, NEW
HAMPSHIRE