

SNOWPLOWING OF PUBLIC/PRIVATE ROADWAYS POLICY

Subject: Snowplowing of Public Roadways Ref: Public Works Code: 32

Date Approved: October 09, 2018 Motion No: 424/09/10/18 Replaces: 552/13/12/17

The County of Northern Lights believes in providing a year-round road transportation network for the use of residents, travelling public and ratepayers.

The County of Northern Lights, given available resources and manpower, intends to make every effort to keep the roads open by establishing the following guidelines for snowplowing of County roads.

Signed: 
Chief Elected Official

Signed: 
Chief Administrative Officer

PROCEDURE:

1. Snowplowing operations shall generally commence when there is an accumulation of 7.5 to 10 cm of snow on gravel roads or 2.5 cm on paved surface roads, or at discretion of the Lead Hand, to remove excessive snow from the driving surface.
2. The Public Works Supervisor may choose to delay or begin snow removal operations after consideration of certain factors such as current weather, visibility, and effective utilization of manpower.
3. The Public Works Department shall try to achieve good winter driving conditions on paved surface roads within 24 hours of the last snowfall. This may require an application of sand/salt mixture before and/or after snowplowing to enhance traction on compacted snow or ice.
4. The Public Works Department shall try to achieve good winter driving conditions of main gravel surfaces routes within 72 hours of the last snowfall. This may require the use of additional equipment. Lesser travelled roads will be plowed in a timely manner thereafter. There shall be no applications of sand/salt on gravel surface roads unless warranted. Traction on compacted snow or ice shall be enhanced through the use of ice blades on graders.
5. Snowplowing priority will be as follows:

- a) main routes
- b) roads to occupied residences and school bus routes
- c) private driveways
- d) field access roads (as requested)*

** field access roads shall not be maintained or inspected on a regular basis through the winter months unless an affected landowner requires access to his field and submits a request for the road to be opened.*

- 6. Roads left unplowed for the winter will not be opened until the spring unless specifically requested by an affected landowner, or as determined by the area Road Supervisor.
- 7. Gravel roads must have snow and ice kept off the center line with a little gravel showing.
- 8. Prior to any work taking place on private land, the landowner MUST sign a County snowplowing agreement and comply with all conditions of this policy. The area road supervisor will complete a visual inspection of the driveway and if it is deemed safe, then an agreement will be signed and a snowplowing sign will be issued. Snowplow signs are non-transferable.
- 9. The County will have 2 different fees for snowplowing of private driveways, a seniors fee for landowners who are 65 and older (a copy of their drivers license may be required) and a regular fee for all other landowners. In the event that a property has more than one name on the title, the fee will be

determined by which landowner signs the agreement.

10. The fee for 400 meters or less of driveway does not mean the operator has to plow out a total 400 meters, be it to the barn, woodpile, shop, granaries, etc.
11. Likewise, the additional fee for more than 400 meters of driveway does not mean that now 800 meters will be plowed out. These amounts and distances are merely a guideline from which to charge. No driveways or private access roads in excess of 800 meters will be considered for work under this policy.
12. If the conditions are extreme and main roads have to be plowed out before individual private driveways are done, then the operator just backs in and drives out of the driveway entrance.
13. Landowners who wish to have their private driveways plowed and who have signed an agreement and been given a sign, must put their sign at the end of their driveway where visible to the grader operator. Once the grader operator has completed plowing, it will be the landowners responsibility to then remove the sign from the end of their driveway.
14. Landowners will receive an invoice monthly for the total number of times their private driveway was plowed out by the grader operator during the billing period. The County does not bill renters or residents who are not on the land title. Landowners who are in arrears 60 days will have snowplowing

services suspended and will be required to pay the total amount due and a service recommencement fee prior to snowplowing services being reinstated.