

The Burlington Highway Department is preparing for the annual Winter season. New England is known for its variety of weather conditions, and they all come in extremes

The primary responsibility of maintaining the transportation network by making it accessible and safe rests with the Highway Department. However, successful battles against the onslaught of winter also require the cooperation and informed assistance of all residents. This plan outlines the snow removal procedure of the town and offers suggestions on how you can help. It briefly describes how together we can minimize the impact of winter storms.

## **SNOW AND ICE CONTROL PLAN**

### **1st Stage - Salting the Roads**

When winter precipitation starts and anywhere from 0" - 1/4" of snow accumulates, the Highway Department dispatches 8 trucks with plows down opening the center of streets while dispensing Salt.

You can help by parking your vehicle off the street at all times during the winter months. Since many of the storms happen at night, the highway department can get you to work or school in the morning more efficiently if there are no cars parked on the streets.

### **2nd Stage- Full Scale Plowing**

Operations are conducted over 8 designated routes. Within each route, certain streets are designated as primary routes to be opened first that all areas of town can be reached by snow removal crews and emergency vehicles. During this phase "plow trucks" will first "open up" primary and secondary routes. This means that at the end of the drivers salting stage, a minimum of two passes will be made so that the road is open to traffic (approximately 20 feet of road). After all streets are opened, the drivers will begin to "push back" the accumulated snow to the gutter line to gain maximum width of road surface. This work is vital on narrow streets because melting snow needs to get to the storm water basins. If widening out is not done as soon as possible, the banks may freeze and become impossible to move at a latter time.

YOU CAN HELP by staying off the roads unless it is absolutely necessary. If urgent business or an emergency requires you to be on the streets during this stage, be sure your vehicle is equipped with chains and or snow tires. Drive with extreme caution and keep your travel to a minimum. Also it would be wise to wait until plowing is finished before shoveling the end of your driveway.

Information may be obtained from the Highway Department 673-2439 ex.224 during all storms.

### **3rd stage- Sanding**

After plowing operations have been completed, trucks are assigned salting routes. Salting operations continue until all town streets have been salted. You can help by continuing to limit your travel to limit your travel to necessary trips and remembering to give the Highway Department equipment room to operate safely.

## **WINTER DRIVING TIPS**

Make sure your car is warmed up and all windows are free of ice and snow.

Clean all snow and ice off your vehicle so it doesn't blow off onto the road or another vehicle. This not only makes good sense, it's the law.

Take your time. Allow extra time to reach your destination. Travel during winter conditions may take up to twice the normal driving time. Plan accordingly and drive safely.

## **RESIDENTS SAND**

Sand salt mixture for resident use is located at the entrance to the Recycle center. Please do not go to Highway Garage to pick up your sand, use this location.

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