



Town of Canadice

Winter Maintenance Policy

Introduction

Roads in the Town of Canadice are subject to freezing rain, ice, snow and drifting at any time from the end of October into April. The Town Highway Department's goal is to maintain its 37 centerline miles along with the approximately 20 centerline miles contracted through Ontario County in as good winter driving conditions as weather, equipment and budgets allow. This does not mean bare, dry pavement should be expected during and immediately after each snow or ice event. Furthermore, this does not mean that roads will be free of ice and snow especially on gravel surfaces. The Town of Canadice by its nature is similar to many other towns in the Finger Lakes foothills having tremendous elevation changes in a few miles. This unique geographic characteristic can at times create different weather conditions throughout town making the dispatch of maintenance vehicles difficult at times. In an effort to provide a safe driving experience the following reasonable written plan of service shall be administered.

Snow and Ice Control

The Town of Canadice is split into 4 major plowing routes which are serviced by the town's (4) 10-wheeled plow trucks. Each of these routes are designed to minimized overlaps and take approximately 2 hours to complete. The Town also utilizes a smaller 6-wheeled plow truck to maintain the few dead-end roads and to provide a more immediate response to some of the steeper hills that wouldn't normally be serviced until the ends of the other plow routes. The Town's Highway Department is responsible for the daily maintenance and repairs to the fleet of snow removal equipment, and in doing so has developed a 10-year replacement schedule to ensure that the town's equipment is updated before it out lives its useful life. As with any piece of equipment, breakdowns and unforeseen incidents are possible and can potentially affect snow removal operations. In order to provide the same level of service in this scenario the Highway Department has established a designated 3 truck route which utilizes the 6-wheeled plow truck to provide best coverage.

Before, during and after an event the Highway Superintendent or the individual who is on call, is responsible for driving the Town's roads and determining the level of service which is required for a call out. This could mean 1 or 2 trucks for some drifting or localized precipitation or it could be the entire fleet for a town wide event. The call out procedure following an overnight event is usually a start time between 4 and 4:30 AM. This allows ample time to have the roads treated by 6:30 AM before the first school bus run. If conditions warrant, a second run will immediately follow. Additional runs if needed will be made based on the weather, road conditions, school bus schedules and the evening commute. Under most circumstances maintenance will end after 8:00 PM. Severe weather conditions (i.e. freezing rain/roadway icing and/or heavy continued snow) may dictate that maintenance continue after 8 PM. The Town of Canadice **does not have a bare road policy**, but will make every effort while being fiscally

and environmentally responsible to provide a safe and clear center driving surface for vehicles that are properly prepared for winter driving conditions and vehicle operators who drive responsibly for the road conditions. During a severe winter event the Highway Superintendent has the authority to suspend snow and ice control operations if deemed to be a danger to the operators or is not practical or cost effective to continue.

Private Driveways

Winter maintenance of driveways and private roads are the responsibility of the property owner(s) and snow should not be placed over the ends of culvert pipes. It is the property owner's responsibility to keep culvert pipes open and clear for the passage of water. New York State prohibits the plowing of snow from driveways across any roadways. Violators may be liable for fines and civil liability due to any injury, accidents, and/or damage to town equipment. **NYS highway law 214** *(depositing ashes, snow, ice, stones, sticks, etc. upon the highway. Any person who shall deposit or throw loose stones in the gutter or grass adjoining a town highway, or shall deposit or throw upon a highway, ashes, papers, snow, ice, stones, sticks, or other rubbish, shall be liable to a penalty not to exceed one hundred dollars to be sued for and recovered by the town Superintendent of Highways. No stone or other rubbish shall be drawn to and deposited within the limits of any highway, except for the purpose of filling in a depression or otherwise improving the highway, and only with the written consent and under the direction of the town Superintendent of Highways)*

During an emergency if requested by an appropriate agency, (i.e. fire, police, ambulance, etc.) the Town's Highway Department will plow a private driveway or roadway in order for emergency vehicles to gain access. In which case the town employees and operators are not responsible for any damages that may occur during the snow removal operation.

Parking

There is no "on road parking" in the Town of Canadice, this includes areas adjacent to the road surface (i.e. road shoulders and driveway entrances within the right-of-way). Vehicles parked illegally or abandoned on roads are subject to towing at the owner's expense as well as being ticketed by the Ontario County Sheriff's department.

Mailboxes

Mail and news paper boxes placed in the highway right-of-way are allowed to be there merely as a convenience to the homeowner and the delivery persons. While the highway department makes

Town of Canadice

every effort to avoid damaging these structures, it may at times, depending on visibility and other circumstances be unavoidable. Therefore, the Town of Canadice takes **no responsibility for damaged mailboxes or newspaper boxes**. Most mailbox damage is a direct result of snow being cast off the wing and not direct wing/plow contact. In certain situations, at the Highway Superintendent's discretion, a mailbox that has been physically struck by a Town of Canadice vehicle may be repaired or replaced by the department.

Complaints

Written complaints addressed to the Superintendent of Highways, Town Supervisor, Town Clerk or Town Board members will be addressed by the Superintendent of Highways. Any verbal complaints given to a Town of Canadice Highway employee, Superintendent of Highways, Town Supervisor, Town Clerk or Town Board member if given in a respectable manner will be relayed to the proper personnel. Town of Canadice highway employees, Superintendent of Highways, Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, or Town Board members or their spouses and family members will not deal with rude, obscene or belligerent complaints, actions or behavior. Anonymous complaints will not be acted upon.