



Department of Public Works

Town of Sandisfield

Winter Storm Protocol

Priority Plowing and Salting

Main roads will be plowed first, followed by secondary roads, and then dirt roads. When school is in session, plowing of bus routes will take priority and begin around 6:00am.

Salt is customarily applied before snowfall begins to prevent snow from bonding to the pavement. Air temperature, road temperature, snowfall rates, wind, ice, rain, freezing rain, and sleet all affect the timing and amount of salt applied to the roads. In the event of rain/freezing rain, salt will be spread on paved roads and town properties before rainfall, and reapplied as needed to prevent surfaces from icing over when the road temperatures are below or near freezing.

Each storm is unique and requires its own approach. The intensity of the storm may dictate the amount of time the DPW is able to safely and effectively work. The DPW does its best to plow and sand the roads in a timely manner. There are approximately 89 miles of road to plow. Speeds for plow trucks are 10-18mph. After a storm has concluded, it takes 4-6 hours on average to complete cleanup.

Dirt and Gravel Roads

Dirt and gravel roads are plowed after the paved roads. The goal is to have no more than 3-5 inches accumulate on any unpaved road. These roads are sanded at the end of the snowfall and reapplied as needed. In the event of rain/freezing rain, sand and chip is applied on dirt and gravel roads when possible. During a rain storm with road temperatures below freezing, dirt roads tend to freeze instantly and any sand and chip that was applied is quickly frozen over. During a long rain event, roads are sanded two to three times a day. It is important to note that because these dirt roads freeze up so quickly, they will not be passable at all times.

Parking Ban

From November 11th to April 10th, no person shall park or leave a vehicle unattended on any town road or town property that is required to be plowed by the town, except during business hours. Vehicles in violation of this regulation may be towed at the owner's expense.

Private Snow Plow Operators

No private individual shall plow/blow snow onto or across, or otherwise dispose of snow onto town roads. This is illegal and dangerous. Violators can be ticketed by the police up to \$150.

Mailboxes & Other Personal Property

Anything installed in the town's right of way (mailboxes, fences, signs, etc.) is placed there at the owner's risk. Residents are encouraged to place mailboxes at maximum allowable distance (6-8 inches) from the traveled way. All personal property close to the road should be inspected regularly to insure it is secured properly and that wood posts are not rotted out. We do not deliberately knock over or damage personal property. The town will not replace or reimburse for mailboxes unless it is hit directly by plow or equipment; we are not responsible for damage caused by heavy snow impact.