

Town of Greene Winter Road Maintenance

Introduction

The Town of Greene roads are subject to freezing rain, ice, snow and drifting at any time from November through April. The Town's goal is to maintain its approximately 84.40 centerline miles of roads in as good winter driving conditions as weather, equipment, and budgets allow. This does not mean bare, dry pavement should be expected after each snowfall or ice storm. Furthermore, this does not mean that roads will be free of ice and snow.

Snow and ice Control

Planning and preparing for snow and ice operations is difficult due to the uniqueness of each storm. The interrelationship of factors such as rate of snow fall, moisture content, accumulation, temperature, time of day, and wind velocity determines the uniqueness of each storm. The town maintains adequate supplies of sand and rock salt.

During a snow or ice event, the Town road crew will start snow and ice operations at approximately 5 am and continue till 7:30 pm when necessary, Monday through Friday. Start and ending times are subject to be different on weekends and Holidays. Each plow route takes approximately 3 hours to complete under normal conditions, route time could be extended due to the conditions of the event. Some events may necessitate different hours of operation and will be determined per event. The Superintendent of Highways has the authority to suspend snow and ice control operations in severe storm conditions when there is a danger to operators, or is not practical or cost effective to continue.

During snow and ice events, the town road crew will respond to emergency conditions to the extent practical. The town will not respond to unverified emergency request direct from the public. The request must come from appropriate emergency agency (i.e. fire, police, ambulance, power companies, etc.) If the town is directed by emergency agency, the town will plow private driveways if so, directed by police, fire, or other emergency units of government. Town employees and operators are not responsible for any damage occurring during the snow removal operations from private driveways during emergency operations.

Due to limited budgets and personnel, the town does not operate two shifts and does not plow or maintain roads 24 hours a day, and may not have sufficient equipment to handle severe snow and ice storms as rapidly as usual. No guarantee is made or implied on removal operations. The main objective of snow and ice control is to plow the road surfaces to the shoulder and try to keep the center of road bare surface if possible. The Town of Greene endeavors to maintain adequate traction for vehicle's properly equipped for winter driving conditions. Example: for the safety of the vehicle operator a properly equipped vehicle should have snow tires,

snow tires equipped with studs, tire chains or tire cables, tow rope and a safety care pack with them at all times during the winter months. It is highly recommended that an all-wheel drive or four-wheel drive vehicle be used on certain geographical roads as conditions of each road in the town are different. Example: some roads have a steep incline or hill and would require more than a two-wheel drive vehicle with all season tires to safely travel during certain snow and ice events, compared to a flat road with minimal inclines.

Private Driveways

Driveway maintenance is the property owner's responsibility. Property owners should not place snow over or on to the ends of the driveways culvert. It is the property owner's responsibility to keep culverts open and clear for the passage of water. The Town of Greene and its employees are not responsible for snow removal from private driveways and yards. New York State Prohibits the plowing of snow from driveways across any roadways. Violators may be liable for fines and civil liability due to injury or accidents. If private contractors are used by property owners, they must be made aware of this policy. **NYS Highway Law §214** *(Depositing ashes, snow, ice, stones, sticks, et cetera 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. 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.)*

Mailboxes

Operators are instructed to be very cautious near mailboxes. In most cases a properly installed and maintained mailbox will permit a snow plow to clear snow underneath it. Most cases of damaged mailboxes are caused by heavy snow hitting the box. Please see the Town of Greene mailbox policy for further information.

Equipment

The Town of Greene has equipment designed for snow and ice operations. The equipment is kept in good repair. The towns equipment is subject to break downs and unforeseen incidents, when this happens plowing route times may be extended, The Town takes all steps possible to ensure equipment down time is at a minimum.

In addition, the Town of Greene has shared service agreements with most local municipalities and New York State that could provide equipment and personnel if deemed necessary.

Sidewalks

The Town of Greene does not own or maintain any sidewalks.

Snow plow turnarounds

The Town of Greene uses and maintains approximately 41 turnarounds for snow removal in which many of these are used by the schools and neighboring towns. Most of these turnarounds are not owned by the town but are rather on private property with permission granted for the use of turning around large vehicles. The town plows and sands along with maintains the stability of the area with either gravel, blacktop, or stone and oil year-round, to prevent the chance of getting stuck on unstable ground during unfrozen conditions. If the turnarounds become full of snow the town removes the area as needed to make more room for plowing purposes. There are certain turnarounds that have to be kept clear for the land owners that have granted such permission and may require more passes to put the snow in a respectful area rather than blocking the land owner's access, and to respect the property owner in order to keep a good working relationship for future use. All turnarounds are different and it is up to the highway superintendent to maintain the turnarounds and keep good working relations with the property owners for future use.

Town Owned Roads

The Town of Greene Maintains only Town owned roads. A complete list of roads is as follows:

Airport Rd. Back St. Badger Rd. Boeltz Ave. Bridge St. Bunt Rd. Burgess St. Cahoon Rd. East Clark Rd. West Clark Rd. Copeland Rd. Coutermarsh Rd. Crestmont Rd. Cummings Rd. Cutler Rd. Echo Lake Rd. Elmer Smith Rd. English Lane. Foster Hill Rd. Fox Rd. Furman Rd. Gardner Rd. Geiss Rd. Hackett Rd. Harrington Rd. Hartman Rd. Hattie Clark Rd. Hogsback Rd. Hollenbeck Rd. Hotchkiss Rd. Indian Brook Rd. Jackson Hill Rd. Jesse Green Rd. Johnson Rd. Juliand Hill Rd. King Rd. Kofera Lane. Laurel Rd. Leon Cumber Rd. Martin Rd. Meadow Drive. Miles Rd. North Canal St. North Chenango St. Oak Grove Drive. Ott Rd. Paddleford Rd. Page Rd. Palmer Curtis Rd. Palmitier Rd. Paradise Valley Rd. Parks Rd. Proctor Rd. Quinn Rd. Race Rd. Railroad St. Raleigh Rd. River St. Robbins Rd. South Chenango St. Shafer Rd. Shaffer Rd Spur. Sherman Rd. Slater Rd. Spring Valley Rd. Squirrel Rd. Standish Rd. Stein Rd. Sterry Drive. Taft Rd. Thorn Ridge Drive. Tripphammer Rd. Turk Rd. Turner St. Turnpike Rd. Vosburg Rd. Watrous Rd. Willard Rd. Wylie Horton Rd. Wylie Road. Youngs Rd.

The Town of Greene does declare some sections or whole roads as seasonal use only. Signs are posted on those roads.

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 Greene 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 Greene Highway employee, Superintendent of Highways, Town Supervisor, Town Clerk or Town Board member or their spoused and family members will not deal with rude, obscene or belligerent complaints, actions or behavior. Anonymous complaints will not be acted on.