

TOWN OF LINCKLAEN SNOW & ICE CONTROL POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose and intent of this policy is to outline the procedures used for snow and ice control by the Town of Lincklaen.

GOAL

It is the goal of the Town of Lincklaen Highway Department under the supervision of the Highway Superintendent to provide cost effective winter maintenance in a timely manner to achieve passable, reasonably safe roadways during snow and ice season for the benefit of the town's residents and general motoring public. However, at times, the roads will be slippery, and drivers need to exercise caution, as the Town of Lincklaen does not have a bare roads policy.

TIME FRAME

The Town of Lincklaen does not operate with a 24-hour road crew. The Town's Highway Department's regular winter hours are Monday – Friday from 6:00 am – 2:30 pm. During ice and snow events, work hours will be adjusted accordingly to attempt to clear the roads. Town employees do not work past 7:00 pm unless it is an emergency.

EQUIPMENT

The town currently uses three plow trucks, each equipped with front mounted one-way plows, right side wings, and sanders for the majority of its snow and ice control operations. A smaller dump truck with an all-angle plow and slide-in sander is used for smaller roads and maintaining town owned properties, depending on driver availability.

PERSONNEL

The town is considered fully staffed when it has three full-time employees and one part-time employee. If needed, additional help may be called in to assist in plowing operations during major snow and ice events.

MATERIAL AND APPLICATIONS

On Paved/oil and stone roads the typical material used is a salt and sand mix. Dirt roads will be treated primarily with sand. Salt will be added to the dirt roads depending on the event. The rate of application of material depends on many factors such as type of precipitation, duration, and intensity of the storm.

ROUTES

The Town of Lincklaen is divided into three main plow routes. Each route is approximately 12 centerline miles (24 lane miles) each and takes approximately 4.5 hours to complete.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

DURING SNOWSTORMS

The initial effort for paved roads is an application of salt/sand mix to prevent the bonding of snow and ice to the pavement. The roadways are plowed and sanded in order of priority. Main (collector) roads are addressed first with special attention to steep hills and difficult intersections. The side roads are done next. Side roads will remain unplowed if the main roads require repeated plowing. This may seem unfair to the residents of side roads, but main roads must remain open. During major storms less traveled roads may be opened to only one lane until the storm has subsided. Subsequent efforts during the storm will be the plowing and re-application of salt/sand at intervals frequent enough during the storm to attempt to maintain passable road conditions. After the storm has passed, a final plowing to remove snow and ice shall be made along with a final application of salt/sand. In the event of severe icing there may be an increase of salt/sand application.

FOLLOW-UP AFTER STORMS

Crews continue to monitor all routes for ice problems and/or drifting conditions and will plow and treat, as necessary. However, safety considerations for residents and plow drivers may lead to temporary road closures in problem areas.

The following is a partial list of considerations, which could exist, that may hinder the efforts outlined in this policy.

- Equipment breakdown
- Personnel illness
- Shortage of materials
- Snow accumulation more than 1" per hour
- Assisting emergency responders
- Pedestrian's disabled vehicle
- An event that is expected to last longer than 24 hours

BLOCKED DRIVEWAYS

All snowplows angle the same way – to the driver's right – and when plowing, the snow gets pushed in front of the driveway. The homeowner is responsible for access to his/her driveway. The only way to avoid extra shoveling is to wait until the highway department have done their final clean up on the road. It is suggested that when clearing your driveway clear the snow to the right side of your driveway to decrease the amount snow that the plow pushes back into your driveway.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

The plows used by the Town of Lincklaen are designed to deposit snow onto the shoulder area of the roadway's, approximately four feet from the traveled portion of the road. This is typically the same area where mailboxes are placed, as well as fences, shrubs, and garbage cans to be picked up. After heavy accumulations of snow, the plow trucks may "shelf back" snowbanks to make room for more snow and to help with visibility. This may result in snowbanks being moved 6-8 feet off the roadway. The snowplow drivers make significant effort to avoid obstacles, however sometimes damage does occur.

MAILBOXES

Mailboxes and supporting posts must be installed to withstand the rigors of snow removal, including the force of snow pushed from the street onto the roadside.

As a courtesy, the town is willing to repair or replace mailboxes located in the town road right of way if **ALL** the following apply:

1. Town Highway Superintendent is notified within 72 hours,
2. The mailbox complied with US Post Office specifications,
3. The mailbox was in good repair, and
4. There is evidence of the town plow or truck hitting the mailbox.

The town **will not** make repairs or replace mailboxes which are unable to withstand the force of snow or that are improperly installed. Also, mailbox posts that have rotted due to Mother Nature's contribution, as well as those that have been struck by other vehicles (esp. private Plow Contractors). *So, check your mailbox and the supporting posts in the fall: perform the "shake test." If the post is already "shaky," chances are the post is unstable in the ground and will not withstand the pressure of flying snow. Check your mailbox for loose or missing parts.*

The town is not responsible for replacing designer boxes, posts, or any style of newspaper boxes. The town will provide a standard black or white metal mailbox and treated 4x4 wood post. If the resident wishes to replace the damaged mailbox with any other type of mailbox or post on their own the Town Board has approved a reimbursement limit up to \$50.00, after the resident installs the replacement mailbox and provides a receipt. Mailboxes that are damaged by routine highway maintenance operations and **replaced or reimbursed by the** town shall be re-installed to **US Post Office specifications**. The specifications can be found on the town website. Additionally, it is the homeowner's responsibility to clear the mailbox for postal delivery.

If you have any questions or concerns about the proper mailbox and/or installation, contact the Highway garage (315)-852-9573. We are available to assist and advise with proper mailbox placement for new or replacement installations.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

It is illegal for anyone to plow snow from driveways, walkways, sidewalks, or other privately owned areas into or across the road. Violators will be ticketed for creating a hazardous situation.

Basketball hoops and other personal items must be removed from the right of way before November 1st. The town **will not** be held responsible for damage to basketball hoops and other personal items that are not removed.

It is a safety hazard to residents and plow drivers when vehicles are parked in the road. Not only do parked vehicles reduce the sightline for pedestrians and oncoming vehicles, but they also force the plows to veer out of the travel lane. **Effective November 1st until April 1st ALL VEHICLES parked on any Lincklaen Town Road will be towed away at the owner's expense.**

Also, effective November 1st – April 15th, the following town highways are hereby designated as **SEASONAL LIMITED USE** highways: Lane Hill, Husted, Ratville, Wentworth, portions of Springer, Upham, Hyer, Johnson, Bamerry, Murray, Freeman, and Stony Brook.