

Town of Middlesex Winter Road Policy

The Middlesex Highway Department has the responsibility of maintaining 49 miles of town roads. This policy is geared toward obtaining safe highway travel surfaces during winter months. It is our goal to achieve this at the earliest practical time and in the most cost efficient manner during and after a storm event. Providing bare, dry travel surfaces during a winter storm event is not practical and therefore not expected.

Each winter storm event is unique. It is impractical to develop specific rules on winter maintenance operations. The judgment of the Road Foreman and/or Road Commissioner governs the quantities and type of applications used to control ice and snow.

Snow Plowing

The Town of Middlesex begins plowing when snow has accumulated 2"-3". Generally, plowing does not begin before 3 a.m. and usually ends by 9 p.m.

Sand

Sand will be applied to all roads. The use of sand in winter maintenance material may cause windshield damage. Travelers should use caution and avoid following other vehicles or Town trucks too closely. The Town assumes no liability for vehicle repairs, including replacement of windshields.

Plow Routes

Plow routes are established by the Road Foreman in consultation with the Road Commissioner. Each plow route takes approximately 5 hours to complete, sometimes longer depending on the storm and conditions. This means if plowing started when there was 2" of snow on the road, by the time the truck finishes the route there is the potential for up to 5"-7" or more of snow on the road again. Therefore, during a heavy snowstorm, at times there will be snow on the roads.

Freezing Rain

It is important to note that sand is less effective during rain storms. Sand will be applied to the roads more aggressively during these storms to help aid in safer travel. However, roads may become dangerous during such storms.

Mailboxes

The Town will not repair or replace mailboxes damaged by snow or ice-clearing operations.

Trash Placement

Trash and trash receptacles should be placed in a manner that will not interfere with winter road maintenance. The Town will not be responsible for damage to trash receptacles or trash clean up.


Parked Vehicles

No vehicle shall be parked on the Town's right-of-way from the start of precipitation until 24 hours after the storm ends. The Town reserves the right to tow parked vehicles at the owner's expense. The Town is not liable for damages incurred to vehicles parked in the Town's right-of-way.

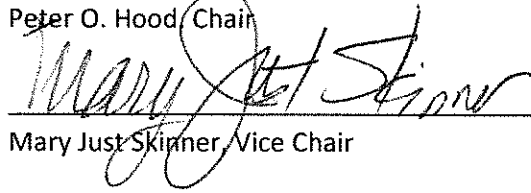
Plowing Across Town Roads

The practice of plowing snow from driveways across or onto Town roads is prohibited by Vermont statute. Residual snow creates a dangerous obstruction (piles, ridges, etc.). Snow shoveling and snow blowing into the roadway is prohibited in Middlesex. Generally, the Town will warn the responsible resident for a first occurrence. Subsequent violations may result in further action, which may include but is not limited to, fines.

Adopted this 13th day of January 2015 by the Middlesex Select Board, the above policy will remain in effect as is until otherwise repealed or amended:



Peter O. Hood, Chair



Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair

William Callnan

Steven K. Martin

Elizabeth Scharf