

TOWN OF DRESDEN HIGHWAY SNOW AND ICE MAINTENANCE POLICY**Purpose:**

To clarify that the Town of Dresden does not have a “bare” road policy and to establish a uniform policy for Snow and Ice Control that is easy to implement and to communicate to the Highway Superintendent, to Dresden truck operators, to the county sheriff, to the State police, and to the public. Once adopted the policy should save taxpayer dollars based upon hitting milestones during the event and not attempting to “bare” or “wet” the road surface.

General:

It is recognized that it is not possible to provide a “bare” or “wet” pavement surface all of the time during snow and ice events. The interactive effects of pavement temperature, air temperature, event intensity, initial treatment, operational cycle time, traffic volume, road geometry, wind velocity, and solar energy have profound influence on the effectiveness of our snow and ice control measures. Our first priority during a storm event is to provide reasonably safe road surfaces. This policy was developed from current language in the NYSDOT Maintenance Guidelines for Snow and Ice Control.

Objective:

The objective of the Snow and Ice control operation is to provide the traveling public with a passable and reasonably safe pavement surface as much of the time as possible given the available resources and limitations imposed by weather conditions.

Goals:

Snow control goals will vary with traffic volume and other considerations. Plowing should begin as soon as there is enough snow on the pavement to plow. The intent is to provide a visible centerline for as much of the event duration as possible.

Ice control goals will vary with traffic volume and other considerations. There are two strategies used by the Dresden Highway Department: they are Anti-icing and deicing.

Anti-icing is a strategy that places and maintains a sufficient quantity of ice control chemicals (Rock Salt & Sand) on the pavement surface before or very soon after precipitation or ice formation begins. This is done to prevent bonding of snow and or ice to the pavement.

Deicing is a strategy for dealing with snow and or ice that has already bonded to the pavement surface. Deicing is most effectively accomplished by spreading a Salt and Sand mix on the surface of bonded snow or ice.

Timely application of chemicals very early in a storm with appropriate follow-up applications will generally prevent pack from forming. When deicing sufficient time is necessary to allow the salt to work before plowing commences.