

Town of New Lisbon Winter Road Maintenance Policy

Introduction

The Town of New Lisbon's 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 66.1 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 inter-relationship 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 tries to maintain 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 4:30 am and continue till 6:00 pm when necessary. Each plow route takes approximately 4 hours to complete under normal conditions, route time could be extended due to the conditions of the event. Some events may necessitate difference of hours and will be determined per event. The Superintendent of Highways has the authority to suspend snow and ice control operations in a severe storm conditions when there is a danger to operators, or it 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 requests direct from the public. The request must come from a governmental emergency agency. The town will plow private driveways only if so directed by police, fire, EMS or other emergency units of government. The town and 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 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 to the extent practicable. The town endeavors to maintain adequate traction for vehicles properly equipped for winter driving conditions and driven with appropriate care in consideration of the conditions.

Private Driveways

Driveway maintenance is the property's owner's responsibility. Property owners should not place snow over or on to the ends of driveway culverts. It is the property owner's responsibility to keep culverts open and clear for the passage of water. The Town of New Lisbon 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 damage to mailboxes are caused by heavy snow hitting the box. The Town is not liable for damage to mailboxes that may occur during normal road highway department operations.

Equipment

The Town of New Lisbon has equipment designed for snow and ice operations. The equipment is kept in good repair. The town's equipment is subject to break downs and unforeseen incidents. When this happens plowing route times may be extended. The town takes all reasonable steps to ensure equipment down time is at a minimum.

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

Town-owned Roads

The Town of New Lisbon maintains only Town-owned roads. A complete list of roads is as follows:

Allen Rd	Backus Rd	Balcom Rd	Bardin Rd	Barth Rd	Bell Hill Rd	Blue Jay Hollow Rd
Blue Jay Hollow spur	Braun RD	Buck schoolhouse Rd	Bundy Rd	Card Rd	Card Spur	
Coles Bridge Rd	Dockstader Rd	East turtle Lake Rd	Elliott Rd	Evans RD	Gardnertown Rd	
Gilbert Lake Rd	Gill Hill Rd	Goddards Rd	Gregory Rd	Gross Rd	Harrington Rd	High street
Harmouth Rd	Hudson Rd	Jacobson Rd	Jones Rd	Kane Rd	Lena Rd	Miller Rd
Mittlesdorf Rd	Morse Rd	Myers Mills Rd	Nearing Rd	North Welcome Rd	Pardee Rd	
Parker Rd	Pegg Rd	Pine Woods	Quinlog Rd	Rabbit Hollow Rd	Santoro Rd	Sohne Rd
South welcome Rd	Stahl Rd	Texas Rd	Turnbull Rd	Vibbard Rd	Walters Rd	Ward Rd
West Turtle Lake Rd	Wheat Rd					

The Town of New Lisbon has classified some sections or whole roads as Minimum Maintenance Roads as provided in Local Law 302022. Signs are posted on those roads and there is no snow or ice removal or other winter maintenance on these 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 New Lisbon 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 New Lisbon Highway employees, Superintendent of Highways, Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and Town Board members and their spouses and family members will not deal with rude, obscene or belligerent complaints, actions or behavior. Anonymous complaints will not be acted on.