

# **Madbury Inclement Weather Road Maintenance Policy**

## **GOAL**

The Town of Madbury will provide timely and effective winter maintenance, snow removal and ice control on the Town's roadways for the safety and benefit of the town's residents and motoring public.

## **PROCEDURE**

Our goal will be achieved through implementation of the procedures outlined below. Due to the many variables in New England weather, each storm or weather event may require a different winter snow removal and ice control strategy.

## **LEVEL OF SERVICE**

It is not possible to maintain a black or ice-free surface during storm events. It is the intention of the town to provide the safest practical travel during storm events given the conditions at the time.

This Policy serves as a normal operating guideline for winter maintenance, snow removal and ice control. Many factors may delay or prevent the implementation of this policy including:

- Equipment breakdown
- Freezing rain or icing conditions
- Emergencies
- Rapid snow accumulation
- Traffic congestion
- Personnel illness

## **AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The Selectmen's designated Road Representative has responsibility and authority to make or delegate weather related road maintenance decisions.

## **PRIORITIZATION**

Priority clearings will be accomplished within the context of practical, efficient and effective equipment routing and scheduling. Emphasis will be given to making roads safely passable for driver using appropriate winter driving caution. Priorities:

1. Problem areas where reduced traction creates a particular hazard:
  - Town Hall/Route 155 intersection
  - French Cross and Old Stage/Route 9 intersection
  - Moharimet Drive/Hayes Road intersection.
  - Nute Road/Hayes Road intersection
2. Safety services access: the Madbury Safety Complex
3. Higher traffic roads, generally through-roads with non-local traffic:
  - French Cross Road
  - Hayes Road
  - Old Stage Road
  - Mill Hill Road
  - Town Hall Road
  - Pudding Hill Road

4. All other Class V roads not maintained by the State
5. To the extent possible, and as prioritized, the Town will clear roads in anticipation of morning and late afternoon higher traffic times.
6. The ORCSD is responsible for clearing school drives, access and parking areas and any other areas as agreed with the Town.
7. Madbury will not clear Class VI roads or Private Roads
8. During active storms, clearing activity may be deferred between the hours of 12AM and 5AM in order to optimize service during the morning drive time.

#### LIABILITY LIMITS

Road clearing is an essential public service rendered under challenging conditions. Individuals must accommodate this activity by recognizing the consequent risks. The Town will not accept liability for damage to personal property, especially mailboxes or vehicles, within the Right of Way (typically 25' from center of road).

When snow removal coincides with trash pickup days, residents must anticipate snow removal operations and place trash containers well away from areas affected by snow removal operations.

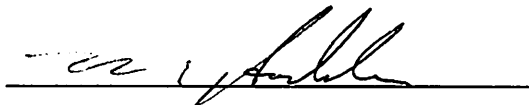
#### ORDINANCE PROVISIONS

Madbury's winter road ordinance provides safety-related limits on the use of the public roads:

*"Parking is prohibited on all streets and roads during snow removal, salting and sanding operations. Drivers must anticipate such operations whenever weather creates the need. Operations may continue well after any initial treatment. Vehicles parked in the right of way (typically 25 feet from the centerline of the road) during such operations shall be deemed in violation of this ordinance and shall be towed at the owner's risk and expense.*

*It shall be a violation to plow, shovel, blow, throw or otherwise deposit snow on a public way including Class V and Class VI roads and sidewalks."*

Adopted by the Madbury Board of Selectmen at a Public Hearing on August 1, 2016.



Bruce Hodsdon  
Chair, Madbury Board of Selectmen