

Town of Danby

Vermont

Delinquent Tax Collection Policy

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines

Delinquent accounts will be assessed with penalty and interest as follows:

8% penalty and 1% interest the day after taxes are due, 1% interest per month for the next 2 months, increasing to 1.5% per month thereafter. Interest is based on outstanding principal and calculated the 1st of every month

The tax collector will send monthly notices to each taxpayer indicating the amount of principal, penalty, and interest owed

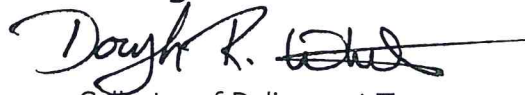
Delinquent accounts must be paid in full or have a payment agreement in place within 60 days

Payments will be applied proportionally between principal, penalty, and interest

If no payment agreement within 60 days the account will be reviewed by our delinquent tax attorney and considered for tax sale

Accounts scheduled for tax sale will be charged all legal fees plus total cost of preparing and conducting the sale

Douglas R. White



Collector of Delinquent Taxes

01/01/2018

Town of Danby – Winter Operations Policy

Adopted December 12, 2013

Purpose:

The purpose of an accepted winter operations policy is to define the scope of procedures for snow and ice control and removal. The primary objective with winter operations is to maintain the safety and mobility of the travelling public. Although financial limitations ultimately affect the level of service that is provided, every effort will be made to provide safe roadway conditions as soon as possible with available resources (budget, personnel, equipment and materials). Vermont storms vary dramatically with regards to precipitation, prediction and timing. The Highway Department will coordinate operations to fit each event. This plan is intended as a guide for “average” conditions.

General:

During the winter period extending from November 1 – April 30, the Highway Department’s main principal is controlling snow and ice on roughly 56 miles of road. A prioritization of roads has been established to address winter maintenance. Resource limitations do not allow for 24 hour continuous winter maintenance service during storm events. Best management practices limit employee plowing hours. There may be reduced or no winter maintenance between the hours of 9:00 PM and 4:00 AM.

The Highway Department strives to keep roads safe for the travelling public, however, the Town does not have a “bare roads” policy. Roads may be snow covered during and following storm events. Adverse driving conditions are to be expected and motor vehicle operators must be prepared for such. The following is a list of actions (provided by VTrans) that drivers should adhere to in order to accommodate safe winter driving:

- A) Slow down. Driving too fast on wintry roads is the leading cause of crashes
- B) Travel at a safe distance. Allow at least 3 car lengths in order to leave plenty of room to stop.
- C) Watch for plow trucks. Do not crowd/tailgate slow moving maintenance and emergency vehicles.
- D) Do not use cruise control on snow covered roads.
- E) Four-wheel drive vehicle capabilities should not be overestimated.
- F) Clear all snow and ice from vehicle prior to travel.
- G) Have proper snow tires on your vehicle.
- H) Be aware of black ice on what appears to be bare pavement.

Town of Danby – Winter Operations Policy

Prioritization:

During a storm event, priority will be given to school bus routes.

- A) The Danby Highway Department will **not** maintain private roads or private driveways.
- B) Priority will be given to intersections, hills and curves.
- C) School bus routes will be prioritized as appropriate considering status of school operation, storm duration and nature of conditions.

Procedure:

Using available resources and judgment based on experience, the Highway Foreman or his designated representative will determine the appropriate level and timing of snow and ice control to be performed by the Highway Department and will inform the Road Commissioner by noon the next day of any overtime incurred in the winter maintenance. Each storm is a unique event therefore deviations from the routine maintenance plan may occur. Decisions must be made using individual judgment based upon a current assessment of the situation. Town highway drivers are given the responsibility to make decisions regarding snow removal and material application to keep the roads trafficable and reasonably safe while concurrently minimizing costs.

In general, snow will be plowed and sand/salt mixtures, or sand, will be applied during a storm to keep roads open to traffic and to provide an operable roadway surface. Sand/salt mixtures, or sand, will be applied to roadway centers. For paved roads, one-third (1/3) bare pavement will be provided in the middle of the road, as soon as practical. Curves, hills, intersections and bus routes will be given additional attention. For continuous storms, repeated applications will be required.

Generally, when temperatures are above 20 degrees Fahrenheit, salt or sand/salt mixtures will be applied to paved roads while sand will be applied to gravel roads. When temperatures are below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, sand will be used.

Following storm events, continued maintenance will include improvement of road surfaces by clearing packed snow, pushing back snow on road shoulders (winging), removing excess snow piles within the business district and opening/thawing culverts, ditches and storm drains.

Town of Danby – Winter Operations Policy

Materials:

The town keeps a stockpile of sand at the Highway garage for use during winter months. The town also stockpiles salt in a shed at the Highway garage.

Ordinances/Laws:

Title 19, Section 1111 of Vermont Statutes Annotated prohibits the encroachment of the Town right-of-way (ROW) without prior approval of the Select Board. Objects in the ROW are placed there at the owner's risk and the Town assumes no responsibility for any damage to objects placed in violation of the statute. Common items in the ROW are fences, flower pots, basketball hoops, etc. Recovery of damages will be pursued by the Town if any equipment is damaged due to placement of objects in the ROW.

Title 19, Section 1111 (b) prohibits the depositing of "material of any kind within, or to in any way ...obstruct a ditch, culvert or drainage course that drains a highway." Snow is not to be pushed or placed into these areas at any time.

Title 23, Section 1126 (a) of Vermont Statutes Annotated prohibits plowing or blowing snow into or across a State or Town highway, shoulder or sidewalk. Although this is hard to avoid, material should not be left such that it creates an obstruction or mound. Violation of this law may result in a fine as determined by the State of Vermont (presently \$70.00).

Title 23, Section 1102 of Vermont Statutes Annotated prohibits unattended vehicles from interfering with highway maintenance. Vehicles may be towed without warning.

Public Communication/Information:

The Highway Department does not purposely plow snow into private driveways - it is the natural result of plowing operations. When clearing walkways/driveways, individuals should be aware of oncoming plow trucks. Do not attempt to "protect" cleared driveways/walkways by standing at the entrance.

Individuals in close proximity to oncoming plow trucks may be injured by snow or debris in the snow from the plow or by the plow truck itself.

The construction of snow forts, tunnels or similar structures in roadside snow banks should be avoided.

~~The Town will investigate any reported damage to mailboxes caused by winter operations. The Town will repair/replace any mailboxes that suffered direct, physical damage from plows or Town equipment.~~

Damage incurred from heavy snow coming off plows will not warrant repair/replacement. All mailboxes shall be properly secured before winter.

Lawn damage within the ROW is an occurrence even though highway personnel do their best to prevent it. Excessive damage, as determined by the Public Works Director, may be repaired in the spring or when soil conditions allow.

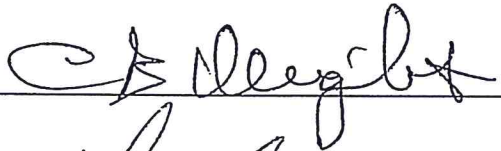
***See change made to this paragraph attached to last page.

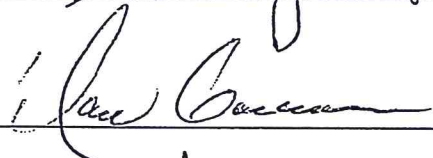
TOWN OF DANBY – Winter Operations Policy

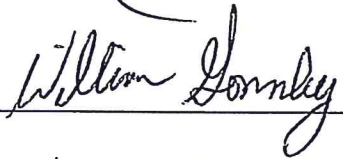
Conclusion:


Vermont winters provide a variety of challenges for town highway personnel, public travelers and private property owners. The adopted Winter Operations Policy should be a source of information and education for the general public. Working together, all entities involved can help to make aspects of winter maintenance easier and winter travel safer for everyone.

The above Winter Operations Policy was duly adopted and signed at a properly warned meeting of the Danby Select Board on December 12, 2013.









TOWN OF DANBY, VT

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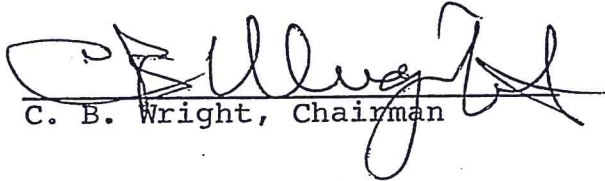
Correction to Winter Operations Policy

At the special meeting of Selectmen held on June 17, 2014 a motion by W. Gormley and seconded by H. Blucher to make changes to Page 3, **Public Communication/Information:**

Paragraph 4. This reads "The Town will investigate any reported damage to mailboxes caused by winter operations. The Town will repair/replace any mailboxes that suffered direct, physical damage from plows or Town equipment."

The corrected to read "The Town of Danby is not responsible for vegetation, fences, structures or mailboxes in Town highway right-of-ways damaged during snowplowing."

At Danby, Vermont, on July 10, 2014 the above change was read and approved.


C. B. Wright, Chairman

Meeting came to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members present: D. Garceau, W. Gormley, H. Blucher, C. Wright

Pledged allegiance.

C. Wright asked that order on agenda be reversed. Motion made by D. Garceau to change agenda. Seconded by H. Blucher. All in favor.

Sheriff Stephen Bernard present to give particulars of services available through his department. Cost of \$15,000. Per year breaks down to \$36.00 per hour at 8.1 hours of patrol time and highway safety time. Will come if emergency but otherwise will answer when on regular patrol. Interested in setting up Neighborhood Watch program. Also starting an e-mail group. Will answer dog problems after dog ordinance is in place. If animal bite or attack will come immediately. Will work on speed ordinance. Sheriff's Department can do engineering and traffic survey for Town. Discussed work zones, license plate reader. Fines back to Town will be approximately 80%. Suggested highways needing traffic survey would be Tinmouth Road, Danby-Pawlet Road, Colvin Hill and Danby Mountain Road as a beginning. Will look into a blanket speed limit for gravel roads. D. Garceau made motion to sign contract with Sheriff's Department. Seconded by W. Gormley. All in favor. Contract signed by Selectboard and Sheriff Bernard.

Letter composed by H. Blucher regard Act 250 hearing on Fuller Sand and Gravel. Long discussion about "trucks entering" and "stop" signs and use of Barn Road and South Main Street. After some changes to letter, W. Gormley motioned to accept and send letter. Seconded by D. Garceau. All in favor. C. Wright will sign after letter is finalized and Clerk will send.

Other Business:

Mailboxes damaged on Dutch Hill was discussed. After reading the Winter Maintenance Policy, it was determined to rescind the motion made on June 12, 2014 which denied the payment for damages. H. Blucher made motion to rescind previous motion and pay for repair. Seconded by D. Garceau. All in favor.

W. Gormley made motion to correct section of Winter Maintenance Policy which deals with mailbox damage. (The Town will investigate any reported damage to mailboxes caused by winter operations. The Town will repair/replace any mailboxes that suffered direct, physical damage from plows or Town equipment.) This is now changed to read The Town of Danby is not responsible for vegetation, fences, structures or mail boxes in Town highway rights-of-ways damaged during snowplowing. Motion seconded by H. Blucher. All in favor.

D. Garceau motioned to adjourn. Seconded by H. Blucher. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Reviewed and Approved