

BOROUGH OF MOUNT JOY POLICY FOR WINTER OPERATIONS

Winter operations begin with snow, sleet or freezing rain/ice in the forecast. Trucks are equipped with material spreaders and loaded with salt/antiskid before the weather event begins. The Borough uses a material mix of salt, cinders and antiskid (small stones) for normal salting and cindering operations. This mixture is effective at melting snow and ice to a temperature of about 20° F. When temperatures go below 20° F the effectiveness of salt as a melting agent is greatly reduced. The Borough's policy is to mix Magnesium Chloride or Calcium Chloride flakes or pellets with the salt/cinder/antiskid mixture at temperatures below 20° F. This addition will lower the effective temperature of the mixture to approximately 0° F. It is important to note that "when the temperature drops, two things happen to the ability of any deicing product to melt ice and snow: the total amount of ice/snow a deicer can melt decreases as the temperature falls, and the speed at which the deicer melts also decreases resulting in a longer period of time required to melt the same amount of ice/snow per pound of deicer applied"(from ADD A DASH OF SALT by Robert Guy, in the Pennsylvania 9/96).

The Police Department notifies the Public Works Department when conditions become such that salt and cinder applications are required. This notification can be by radio or telephone during regular work hours or by telephone call or page to on-call personnel after regular work hours.

Two employees are on-call during non-work hours. The on-call schedule runs on a weekly rotation and lasts from 12:01 AM Monday to Midnight the following Sunday.

Salt and cinder applications begin as streets become slippery. Arterial streets including Main Street (SR 230), Marietta Avenue (SR 772), West Donegal Street, Donegal Springs Road, New Haven Street, Manheim Street (SR 772), North Barbara Street, and the area around the EMS Building on Church Street (N. Plum Street- W. Main Street to Church Street, Church Street- N. Plum Street to N. Market Avenue and N. Market Ave- Church Street to W. Main Street) have priority. Salt and cinders are applied to the entire length of major arteries. The following areas receive salt/cinder applications after arterial streets are treated:

Orchard Road- Main Street to Bruce Avenue.

Angle Street- Main Street to Bruce Avenue.

North Plum Street- Main Street to Bruce Avenue.

North Market Avenue- Main Street to Hill Street.

Wood Street- Chocolate Avenue to Musser Road.

Bridge Boulevard- South Angle Street to Wood Street.

Pinkerton Road- Marietta Avenue to Locust Lane.

Lefever Road- Main Street to Stauffer Court.

Many other areas not included in the above list also receive applications. These areas will not be listed in the policy. The Borough does not have the storage capacity or the financial resources to apply salt and cinders to the entire length of all of the streets in the Borough.

South Angle Street/Union School Road and Fairview Street are maintained by PennDOT not by the Borough.

In the event that a plowable snowfall (5" or more) is forecast, the Public Works Department will apply salt/antiskid early in the snowfall event to form a salt brine that will normally prevent the snow from freezing or "sticking" to the road surface. With a heavy snowfall, the salt and cinder material will not melt the snow as fast as it falls. Typically, two applications are put down and the trucks return to the Public Works Building for reloading and plow installation.

Major arteries will be plowed when snow depth reaches four (4) to five (5) inches or more. Arterial streets have priority and will be plowed first. Secondary or "local" streets will be plowed if/when the snow depth reaches 6" or more. The Borough of Mount Joy's policy is to plow streets as wide as possible initially. This means that as many as three passes in each direction may be required to completely finish a given street.

In order to minimize the aggravation of having their driveways plowed closed residents should:

- Refrain from opening the ends of their driveways until plowing operations on their street have been completed
- Remove snow from the "upstream" side of their driveways to allow the plow to "unload" before it reaches their driveway opening. (See figure 1)

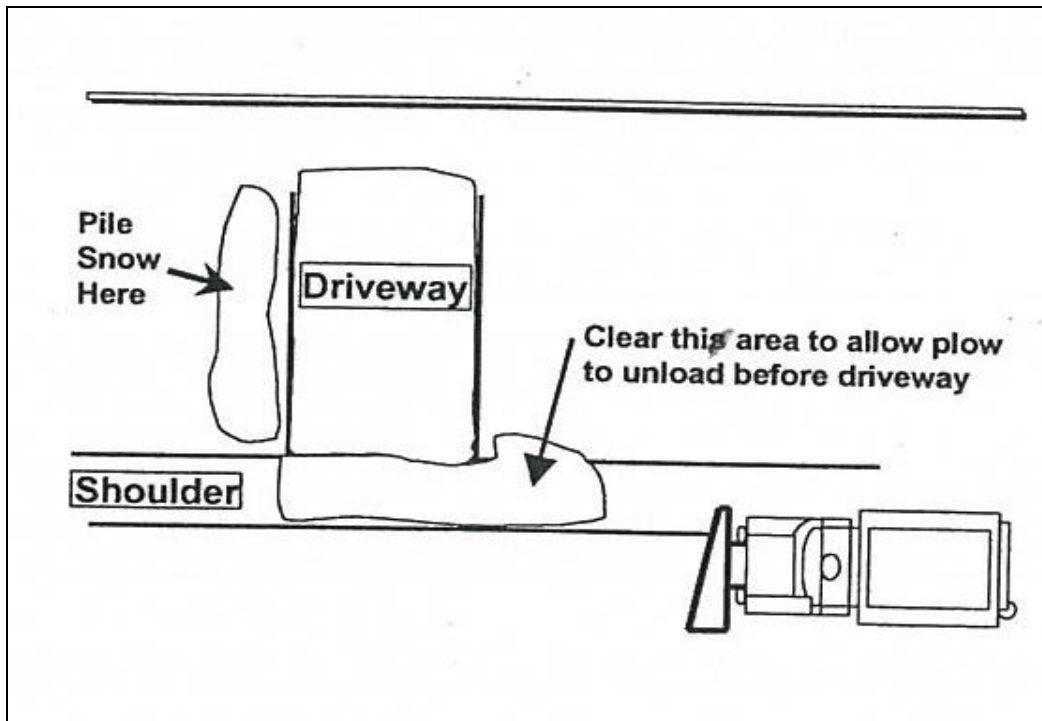


Figure 1

Every attempt is made not to plow snow onto the sidewalks, but depending on the amount of snow and/or slush on the streets, getting snow on the sidewalks is sometimes unavoidable. To assist plow operators in minimizing damage to yards, residents who live on streets without curbs should mark the edge of the roadway with stakes if possible. Plowing may continue intermittently for several days after a snowfall to widen the streets and remove loose snow and slush from the roadway.

The Borough has been divided into quadrants as follows: **NW Quadrant**- bordered on the south by Main Street (SR 230) and on the east by Manheim Street (SR 772), **SW Quadrant**- bordered on the north by Main Street (SR 230) and on the east by New Haven Street/Marietta Avenue, **NE**

Quadrant- bordered on the South by Main Street (SR 230) and on the west by Manheim Street (SR 772), and the **SE Quadrant-** bordered on the north by Main Street (SR 230) and on the west by New Haven Street/Marietta Avenue. All quadrants are bordered on the sides not mentioned by the Borough boundaries. There is typically at least one piece of equipment operating in each quadrant. As each operator completes his assigned area, he will report to the supervisor who will then assign him to another area until all areas are completed. There will be one operator assigned to plow alleys. All other equipment will work to complete street plowing and then move to alleys. Starting points are alternated from one plowable snow to the next so that the same areas of the Borough are not always “last” or “first” to be plowed. With every winter weather event, conditions vary which means that the time required to complete plowing operations will vary as well. A typical 6”-12” snowfall will require approximately 8-12 hours of plowing to be completed. A more substantial snowfall, 18” or more will require substantially more time to complete plowing operations not only because of the amount of snow, but also because the smaller equipment can not be used.

As plowing operations near completion, salt and cinder applications will resume with main arteries again having priority.

The Borough Parks Department is responsible for clearing snow from Borough sidewalks. These sidewalk areas include the Borough Office sidewalk, railroad bridge walks and approaches, and walks around parks.

Snow will be hauled from streets when deemed necessary by Borough Officials. When hauling is deemed necessary, outside contractors must be hired. The Borough’s equipment is not large enough to complete this task efficiently and in a timely manner. Hauling operations are conducted at night because of the lower traffic volume on the streets. The Public Works Department employees will provide traffic control for snow hauling operations. When needed and with approval of the Authority Superintendent and the Borough Manager/Authority Administrator, Borough Authority employees will assist with traffic control for snow hauling operations.

Snow Emergency- a snow emergency will be declared based on amount of snow on the ground, amount of snow forecast, current weather conditions and long range weather condition forecasts. The only street on the Borough Snow Emergency Route list is Main Street- Route 230.

A general State of Emergency would be declared by the Mayor in the event that Borough Officials determine that conditions are such that the general public's health and safety could be jeopardized.