

# Standard Operating Procedure Snow Removal and Ice Control Town of Amherst

No: 01-002

December 15, 2008

Governing Laws RSA 41:11, RSA 47:17, RSA 231:92-a, and RSA 507-B:2-b

Approved Date December 17, 2008

Next Review date December 1, 2010

**Policy:** It is the goal and intent of the Town of Amherst to provide timely, efficient, and cost-effective winter maintenance, snow removal, and ice control on the roadways of the municipality for the safety and benefit of the town's residents and the general motoring public.

**Procedure:** The objective stated above will be achieved by implementation and execution of the procedures and tasks outlined in the Town of Amherst **Winter Operations Snow Removal and Ice Control Procedures**. Due to the many variables that are inherent in New England weather, each storm and / or weather event may require slightly different effort and / or emphasis on any number of maintenance tasks, which together, determine the overall winter maintenance, snow removal or ice control strategy.

**Level of Service:** It is not possible to maintain a snow and ice-free black road or sidewalk during a storm. It is the intention of the Town of Amherst to provide practical, safe access to homes, business and municipal facilities during winter storms.

It is our policy to start snow removal operations upon accumulation of two inches of snowfall. The Public Works Director or his designee may, at his discretion based upon weather information reports, elect to not remove snow until greater or lesser accumulations.

Pre-treatment and ice control may be addressed prior to the actual snow beginning, during the actual storms as seen effective, and proceeding the storm. It should be noted that salt has a much slower effect on melting snow and ice at temperatures below 25 degrees, and may not be applied until it is warmer.

Sidewalk snow clearance will be conducted as soon as possible during winter storms. Personnel availability and the needs to maintain roadways will take priority.

**Command:** direction of all winter maintenance activities for the Town of Amherst is vested with the Director of Public Works, the Lead Foreman, or their designee.

**Execution:** The policy outlined above is intended to serve as the normal operation procedures for winter maintenance, snow removal and / or ice control for the Town of Amherst. One or more of the following, which may delay or prevent the implementation of this policy, may affect all or any part of this policy

1. Equipment Breakdown
2. Snow accumulation in Excess of 1" per hour
3. Traffic Congestion
4. Emergencies
5. Personnel illness
6. Extensively long drawn out storm, with an exhausted crew.

**Adoption:** The Town of Amherst has adopted the Winter Operations Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy effective December 3, 2001. All residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the content as it describes the condition that one might expect to encounter before, during and following a winter storm event.

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Bruce Bowler, Chairman  
Board of Selectmen

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Board of Selectman

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Brad Galinson, Board Member

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Thomas Grella, Board Member

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Gary MacGuire, Town Administrator