



POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

SECTION	ROADS MAINTENANCE	POLICY # ROADS-12-001
SUB-SECTION	WINTER MAINTENANCE	EFFECTIVE DATE Feb. 14, 2012
SUBJECT	STANDARDS OF SERVICE	
APPROVAL	Township of East Luther Grand Valley Motion # 2012-02-12	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide operational guidelines for winter roads maintenance standards of service.

STATEMENT

Our Works Department objective is to provide the best winter maintenance possible while at the same time balancing available resources and the diverse range of winter weather conditions that may arise. We recognize Ontario Regulation 239/02 under the Ontario Municipal Act entitled 'Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways' as the basis for roads standards. It is our wish to consistently provide a greater level of maintenance service to the roads network under our care and control.

Understand that many factors play a role in the success of our winter roads maintenance program. These may include: amounts of types of precipitation, air and ground temperatures, wind speed and direction, sunlight, shade cover, topography, traffic patterns and volumes, available manpower, equipment and materials. As you can see, the complexity and variety of conditions encountered can cause substantial variations in the levels of service provided.

ROADWAY SURFACE CONDITIONS

Considering the statement above, the surface objective on municipally controlled roads is this:

Level of Service	Surface Condition	Road Classification
Center Bare	Attempt to attain bare 2.5m center section of pavement within 24 hrs. after conclusion of storm event	Class 4 - 6 pavements
Snow Packed	Attempt to attain plowed, but snow packed condition within 24 hrs. after conclusion of storm event	Class 4 - 6 gravel roads

SNOW ACCUMULATION

As mentioned above, ELGV recognizes Ontario regulation 239/02 (Sec 4) and our goal is to be that standard at every opportunity. The majority of our snow clearing resources will be depleted between 5 A.M. and 6 P.M. and snow accumulations should be expected at other times. As a safety precaution during severe winter events, whether due to extreme weather conditions, lack of visibility, as a result of road closures beyond our control, the East Luther Grand Valley Works Department will withdraw plow equipment from active operations.

ICY ROADS

Our policy recognizes Ontario Regulation 239/02 (Sec 5) and conforms to its requirements. Different de-icing chemicals (salt, pickled sand) will be generally restricted to our paved roads. Different conditions call for different techniques, therefore applications may range from straight salt to lightly pickled sand as situations warrant. During events where wind swept roads are present, it may not be practical to apply de-icing agents as they can cause unpredictable and dangerous conditions due to the accumulation of snow and slush on the roadway.

On gravel roads, surfaces will be ice bladed (grooved) and abrasives may be applied at cautionary areas (stops, intersections, hills and corners).

SIDEWALKS

In the village of Grand Valley, a network of sidewalks are plowed and salted when there is an accumulation of snow and/or freezing rain. Some municipal walkways are of a dimension unsuitable for snow removal by mechanized equipment. For that reason, these areas are not part of our regular snow removal operations. For a current list of walkways involved in this program contact the Municipal Office.

SUMMARY

The ELGV Works Department strives to provide the best winter roads maintenance we can while both respecting our resources and taking into consideration the range and severity of seasonal conditions that are faced. At all times during winter, drivers and pedestrians are advised to use extra care and caution while travelling. As well, due to timing and intensity of some winter weather events, those using our roadways would be advised to adjust or postpone their travel plans to accommodate for adverse conditions.