

**Township of Montague
ROADS DEPARTMENT**

WINTER MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS POLICY

STATEMENT OF POLICY

1. The objectives of the Montague Township Road Department winter maintenance activities shall be established to provide winter driving conditions consistent with the needs of a low traffic volume rural roads system during a Canadian winter.

The following operations policy for the Township is a guideline only and it is acknowledged that conditions may occur which will prevent the achievement of this level of resources such as funds, equipment and manpower. Weather conditions may also have a major effect on the level of service which can be provided. Drivers of vehicles will be expected to reduce speed to suit the weather and road conditions.

OBJECTIVES

2. a) The objective of winter maintenance operations is to provide a system of snow removal and sand and salt application that will provide safe roadways for the transportation of vehicles.
- b) All plow routes have been established so the maximum time to complete a route under normal conditions will be no more than eight hours.
- c) The basic unit of equipment to attain the required service is either a combination plow/spreader truck equipment with a one way plow or wing, two way spreader box or a hopper sander or a motorized grader equipped with a wing and ice blades.
- d) The minimum level of service to be attained shall be centre bare for paved roads or streets and snow packed for gravel roads or streets.
- e) Call out time at night for employees shall be so all township roads and streets will have had at least one lane plowed by 7:00 am under normal conditions. There will be no plowing authorized before 12:00 am (midnight) or before normal call out time of 4:00 am or as deemed necessary by the Road Superintendent. (Possible exceptions to meet the requirements of Ontario Regulation 239/02 as amended to O. Reg. 288/03)
- f) Overtime will not be authorized for baring the pavement under normal conditions, winging back, step winging or clean up work.

Levels of Service

3. a) Centre Bare: This level of service applies to all hot mix Township roads or streets. This level of service requires the accumulation of snow on road surface will not normally be allowed to exceed 8 centimetres in depth under normal conditions (but limited to the hours stated in the objectives).

The defined level of service is the objective to be reached within 24 hours after the end of the storm whenever possible.

- b) Drifting conditions due to wind may severely effect plowing and salting and sanding operations and must be considered in all decisions for plowing and sanding.
- c) Salt usage on paved roads or streets is limited to those temperatures and storm conditions when salt is effective. When required, sand and salt mix will be used.
- d) Snow Packed: This level of service applies to all gravel roads or streets.

This level of service requires the road surface be maintained in snow packed conditions. The accumulation of new snow on the road or street will not normally be allowed to exceed 12 centimetres in depth and when necessary, snow plowing will be conducted to meet this requirement.

- e) Sanding or ice blading will be used in ice conditions on gravel roads or streets.
4. a) The above-noted targets for level of service shall not be deemed to be minimum standard of service.
- b) The Township of Montague will provide the minimum maintenance standards for its municipal highways as set out in Ontario Regulation 239/02 as amended to O. Reg. 288/03.