

City of Rochester Hills

2005/2006 Winter Maintenance Policy

Purpose:

To provide a safe roadway system during the winter months by operating effective winter road maintenance services. During winter months, the Department of Public Services is responsible for clearing snow on 222 miles of Local Roads and 38 miles of City Major Roads. The City also maintains (by contract with the Road Commission of Oakland County) Livernois from South Boulevard to Tienken. The Road Commission maintains most other mile roads. Department of Public Services winter maintenance work crews are assembled from various departments within the City including: Local and Major roads, Sewer department, Water department and Drains. In emergency situations, Parks and Engineering employees will also participate in snow removal activities.

Objectives for Winter Maintenance Operations

1. Reduce the risk to the traveling public associated with snowy and icy road conditions.
2. Prioritize the school bus and industrial routes.
3. Support emergency operations for the Police and Fire Departments.
4. Provide cost effective and fiscally sound use of winter maintenance funds.
5. Promote better communications with adjoining communities and road agencies to provide information of the conditions of road surfaces.

Priorities:

The City of Rochester Hills has identified three levels of snow and ice control priorities for Major and Local streets. The priorities are classified by monitoring Doppler radar forecast and by employee observations of actual road conditions. Additional information on road conditions is provided by the Oakland County Sheriffs Department and other road agencies. The priorities include the following categories:

Category 1

Snowfall of less than 4 inches

EMERGENCY ROUTES – 38 miles of Major streets that are traveled by Emergency vehicles. These streets are plowed and salted on a 24 hour basis 7days week as needed.

LOCAL ROADS – spot treated with plowing or salting on regular time during normal working hours Monday through Friday 7:00 am. To 3:30 pm.

Category 2

Snowfall of 4 or more inches throughout the City

EMERGENCY ROUTES – 38 miles of Major streets that are traveled by Emergency vehicles. These streets are plowed and salted on a 24 hour basis 7days week as needed.

LOCAL ROADS – 222 miles of local streets are plowed and salted on an as-needed basis 24 hours a day 7 days a week. When plowing local roads, the city is divided into six plow routes. The routes begin on the East and West sides of the city and progress towards the middle.

**Category 3
Snowfall of more than 8 inches**

EMERGENCY ROUTES – 38 miles of Major streets that are traveled by Emergency vehicles. These streets are plowed and salted on a 24 hour basis 7 days week as needed.

LOCAL ROADS – 222 miles of local streets are plowed and salted on an as-needed basis 24 hours a day 7 days a week. When plowing local roads, the city is divided into six plow routes. The routes begin on the East and West sides of the city and progress towards the middle based on traffic counts.

Goals:

- Following a significant snowstorm (4 or more inches in a 24 hour period) plow all local streets within 4 days recognizing that each step will require more time to complete depending on the severity of the storm.
- Apply deicing chemical as needed to maintain roads in a passable condition.
- Clear pedestrian pathways after all local roads are plowed.
- Pathways will not be cleared on overtime however, school cross walk intersections will be maintained on overtime as needed.

If a snow emergency is declared by the Mayor, parked or abandon vehicles may be towed out of the road right-of-way at the owner's expense.

Communications:

The City of Rochester Hills will receive information and comments from the public at the following telephone number: 248-656-4685.



Mayor Pat Somerville

12-6-05

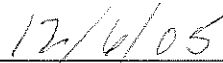
Date

City of Rochester Hills
EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 5, 2005
PROCEDURES FOR SNOW PLOWING OF SUBDIVISION STREETS
2005 - 2006

- Residents are urged to drive according to road conditions. Winter driving requires slower speeds and more time to get around the city.
- The volume of traffic prioritizes plowing of subdivision streets. Higher volume streets receive priority over lower volume streets.
- Under non-emergency conditions subdivision streets will be plowed during regular work hours Monday through Friday 7:00 am. To 3:30 pm. Emergency overtime plowing will be utilized on a case-by-case basis and will be implemented following reports from Public Safety agencies, field crews and The National Weather Service.
- ALL EMERGENCY SITUATIONS (POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE, LIFE THREATENING) WILL BE HANDLED IMMEDIATELY. Every effort will be made to make the streets accessible for emergency equipment.
- Subdivision streets will be plowed after the City receives four or more inches of snow. Blowing winds and drifting snow may affect the ability of snow plow drivers to keep streets passable.
- Following a major snowstorm (six or more inches of snow in less than 24 hours) it may take up to four days to plow all the subdivisions streets.
- Salt barrels are available upon request.
- The plowing of pathways will be delayed until all subdivision streets have been plowed.



Mayor Pat Somerville



Date