

WOODBURY COUNTY, IOWA

ORDINANCE # 1

TITLE: An ordinance establishing a policy and level of service for removal of snow and ice from and placement of traction-enhancing materials upon Woodbury County secondary roads.

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of Woodbury County, Iowa:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish Woodbury County's policy and level of service for clearance of snow and ice from and placement of sand, salt, or other abrasive or traction-enhancing materials upon secondary roads pursuant to the provisions of sections 309.67 and 668.10 of the Code of Iowa.

SECTION 2. Policy and Level of Service. Clearance of snow and ice and maintenance of the secondary road system during the winter months is primarily for the benefit of the residents of Woodbury County. All clearance of snow and ice, sanding, salting, and other maintenance regarding winter conditions shall be limited by the amount of money budgeted by Woodbury County for such purpose. The county's existing snow removal equipment will be utilized.

Each storm has individual characteristics and must be dealt with accordingly. The portion of roadway improved for travel may have upon it snow and ice in a compacted condition. These conditions may be continuous over portions of roadway, or they may be concentrated in valleys or on hills, curves, and/or intersections. The entire width of that portion of the roadway improved for travel might not be cleared of snow, ice, compacted snow and ice, or frost. Snow cleared from that part of the roadway improved for travel shall be placed on or in the adjacent shoulder, ditch, or right-of-way. Snow can be expected to

A. Paved roads.

- (1) The initial effort will be to open all routes to one-lane traffic as soon as practicable.
- (2) After one-lane travel is possible, subsequent snow removal will be carried on during normal working hours.
- (3) Truck-mounted snow plows and spreaders will normally be in operation during daylight hours. The trucks may be called off the road if snow and/or blowing snow reduces visibility to hazardous working conditions, in the professional judgment of the engineer or his designated representative.
- (4) When required due to drifting snow, motor graders may be used to keep the paved roads open, and the opening of gravel roads may be delayed.
- (5) It is not the policy of the county to provide a "dry" pavement condition.

B. Unpaved roads.

- (1) The initial effort will be to open all routes to one-lane traffic as soon as practicable after a storm has passed.
- (2) After one-lane travel is possible, subsequent snow removal will be carried on during normal working hours.
- (3) Motor graders and/or truck plows will normally be in operation during daylight hours. Gravel roads may not be plowed if the wind is causing continual drifting.
- (4) Snow may not be removed from dirt roads.
- (5) Excessive snow accumulation from snow storms and blizzards may require that snow removal operations be limited to those roads which have residences located along them. It may be necessary to provide access to some residences from one direction only, and roads with no residences may not be opened.

C. Private drives.

The county will not clear snow from any private drive or any road that is not a part of the county's secondary road system except in an emergency condition as defined in Section 5.

accumulate adjacent to the traveled portion of the roadway to the extent that a motorist's sight distance to both the left and right may be greatly reduced or impaired. The snow removed from intersections will be piled in its corners in piles of unequal height. The line of sight, sight distance, or visibility of motorists approaching these intersections may be greatly reduced or impaired. Motorists shall drive their vehicles during these conditions with additional caution and watchfulness, especially in respect to the surface of the roadway and reduced or impaired visibility, and are advised to reduce their speed at least 25 miles per hour below that legally permitted or advised under normal conditions. In respect to roadways that have only one lane open, further extreme watchfulness and caution shall be exercised by motorists, and their speed should not exceed 10 miles per hour. During these conditions no additional warning or regulatory signs will be placed to warn of impaired sight distances or visibility at intersections, road blockages, one-lane conditions, or that the road surface is slick or slippery, or what the advised speed should be.

When snow obstructs all or a portion of the right half of the roadway it may be necessary for snow-clearing equipment to be driven to the left of the center of the roadway while clearing snow. Unoccupied vehicles that obstruct the traveled way or impede removal of snow from the roadway may be removed from the roadway or shoulders of the road by county personnel. Woodbury County shall not be responsible for snow pushed or otherwise placed on the roadway or shoulder by others.

SECTION 3. Sequence of Service. In the implementation of snow and ice removal and other maintenance of the county's secondary road system during the winter months, the county engineer or his designated representative shall select the actual sequence of roads to be cleared as provided for in this section of this Ordinance, and shall determine when drifting, wind velocity, and additional snow or snowstorms require that the snow removal equipment be removed from the roadway, or that additional clearance of paved routes be accomplished prior to the clearance of gravel and dirt roads. The county engineer's professional judgment shall prevail.