LAKES HIGHWAY DISTRICT WINTER MAINTENANCE
Winter Maintenance Overview of Local Roads

CLEARING LAKES HIGHWAY DISTRICT ROADS

Most of us can't put our lives on hold when it snows. That's why the Lakes Highway District strives to make winter travel as safe as possible on our local roadway system. Although many drivers have watched snowplows clear the roads, there are some important facts you should know about snow removal.

HOW DOES LAKES HIGHWAY DISTRICT PREPARE FOR THE SNOW AND ICE SEASON?

During the year, operations personnel prepare for the snow season by stockpiling necessary supplies. In the fall, the same trucks that have been used during the summer for stockpiling, patching and other maintenance operations are equipped with snowplows. Employees also receive training to operate equipment.

HOW DOES LAKES HIGHWAY DISTRICT DECIDE WHICH ROADS TO CLEAR FIRST?

The District considers these factors for clearing roads in the Districts Roadway System:

- Traffic Volumes
- Travel Speeds
- Accident Reduction
- Number of steep grades, sharp curves, intersections or potentially hazardous areas
- Availability of manpower and equipment resources

The District applies liquid anti-icing agent to roads in many areas before a storm arrives. Once the anti-icing work is completed, the District responds to winter storms as they occur and attempts to clear all roads as the snow begins to fall. However, in situations where a storm covers a large area and over an extended period of time, resources can be stretched beyond available limits. In these situations a system of priorities is followed to provide the best service.

Major Collector Roads and School Bus Routes that have the highest volume of traffic are cleared first. Workers continue to clear roads with top priority placed on the most-traveled roads down to areas with lower volumes of traffic.

The winter maintenance priorities within the District are approved by the Board of Highway District Commissioners and can be found in our Snow Removal Policy located on our website at www.lakeshighwaydistrict.com.

For more information in your area, please contact the District Office at 208-772-7527