



Rural Municipality of
Wheatlands
No. 163

Winter Road Maintenance and Snow Plowing Policy

Policy # 2024-006

Policy Objective:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to follow in order to ensure consistent practices for winter road maintenance and snow plowing.

Authority:

Resolution # *24/288*

Date: *December 11, 2024*

POLICY STATEMENT

Every permanent farm residence will have one snowplowed municipal road allowance provided by the municipality.

Clearing of school bus routes in the R.M. will be first priority unless schools are closed or buses are not running due to weather conditions. Prairie South School Division submits a bus route map to the municipal office at the start of each school year. Second priority for snow clearing is main all-weather roads and resident ratepayer roads as the third priority with municipal equipment.

It is important to note that some seasonal roads may not be maintained during the winter months. This will be at council's discretion. The R.M. will not plow trails. If a municipal road allowance is not cleared by the municipality, no one is to take on the responsibility of clearing and maintaining.

Custom work will be the last priority for equipment operators. Ratepayers shall contact the office before any custom work will be completed, to fill out the custom work form. Custom work will be invoiced to the individual requesting the work. Yearly custom work rates are set at Decembers Meeting of Council, in effect for January 1st of the following year.

MUNICIPAL SNOW REMOVAL:

- Snow removal will begin when the snowfall stops or is expected to stop
- Snow removal will not take place when visibility is less than 300 metres

- If the snow fall ends the evening before or during the night, snow clearing operations will begin the following morning.
- For extreme snow falls, laid off seasonal employees will be used to remove snow

RESIDENTIAL PLOWING & PRIVATE DRIVES:

Residents are responsible for clearing snow from private driveways. Snow from private driveways shall not be placed on the municipal roadways or shoulders. Do not plow snow from driveways onto or across municipal roads. Piles of snow left on or near the road can freeze into a solid mass creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Piles of snow increase the chance of drifting on the roadway. Accidents and damages caused by snow piles placed in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner. Anyone found plowing snow or who has plowed snow onto the municipal rights-of-way may be liable for the costs for the R.M. to remedy the damage done and can be fined under *The Highways and Transportation Act, 1997*.



Administrator



Reeve/Deputy Reeve