

**NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 18 – 2018**

**A RESOLUTION OF NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP, LEBANON COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING A WINTER MAINTENANCE POLICY
FOR DEDICATED TOWNSHIP STREETS.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to adopt an official “Winer Maintenance Policy” as attached hereto as Exhibit “A” to provide the residents of North Lebanon Township a better understanding of salting and snow removal operations and procedures.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to deviate from this policy at any time due to weather conditions, manpower shortage, material shortage, equipment failure, CDL restrictions or any other unforeseen reasons.

WHEREAS, the goal of the Highway Department is to efficiently and safely remove snow and ice form the roadways.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP, LEBANON COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

1. Winter Maintenance Policy. The “Winter Maintenance Policy” as set forth on Exhibit “A” attached hereto is hereby adopted as the Winter Maintenance Policy of this Township.
2. Amendment: This Resolution may be amended from time to time by Resolution duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of North Lebanon Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of this Township.
3. This Winter Maintenance Policy shall become effective immediately.

This Resolution duly adopted this 17th day of December, 2018.

**NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

By: Edward A. Brensinger
Edward A. Brensinger Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:
(SEAL)

Cheri F. Grumbine
Cheri F. Grumbine, Secretary

WINTER MAINTENANCE POLICY

NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

December 17, 2018

The North Lebanon Township Highway Department has developed a WINTER MAINTENANCE POLICY to allow the residents of North Lebanon Township a better understanding of salting and snow removal operations and procedures. The Township reserves the right to deviate from this policy at any time due to weather conditions, manpower shortage, material shortage, equipment failure, CDL restrictions, or any other unforeseen reasons.

The goal of the Highway Department is to efficiently and safely remove snow and ice from the roadways.

The Highway Department currently consists of five full-time employees. These employees are Class B CDL licensed operators and are subjected to random drug and alcohol testing and by law are only permitted to drive 10 contiguous hours, which must be followed by a minimum 8-hours off-duty, unless the Board of Supervisors' declare an emergency. Multiple snowstorms may cause problems with the CDL restrictions on driving hours, and a bare road surface may not always be possible.

During a normal snow event, 2 Highway Department employees will drive two single axle 10-ton dump trucks each equipped with a spinner type spreader and an 11-foot stationary plow. Two other employees in the Highway Department will drive two tandem axle 15-ton dump trucks each equipped with a spinner type spreader and a 12-foot stationary plow. Depending on the severity of each storm, the Highway Department has 2 front end loaders, grader with a v-plow attachment, and a John Deere tractor, usually used for mowing in the summer, that can be put into action with a plow attachment. When additional equipment or manpower is needed to combat whatever Mother Nature throws at the Township, the Township can call in the two-full time Wastewater Department employees, as well as our Mechanic and Park & Recreation Foreman, who are also Class B CDL licensed operators. This allows the men to work shifts to accomplish the job, or depending on the snowfall have everyone out at once to get the job done sooner!

There are approximately 62.64 miles of Township maintained roads, and approximately 20 miles of State maintained roads in North Lebanon Township. It is important to note that North Lebanon Township **does not** perform winter maintenance (salting or plowing) on State maintained roads for liability reasons.

The **State Roads** that are State maintained are as follows.

E. Maple Street

Heilmandale Road

Hill Church Road

Mt. Zion Road

N. 7th Street/Route 343

N. 15th Avenue (between Rte. 422 & Weavertown Road)

N. 22nd Street

Prescott Drive

Route 72

Route 422

Sandhill Road/Grace Avenue

Tunnel Hill Road

Weavertown Road (between E. Maple Street and Mt. Zion Road)

Please contact **PaDOT at 450-2223** if you have any concerns regarding these specific State roads.

The North Lebanon Township Highway Department employees are "called out" by the Roadmaster. The Roadmaster is notified of poor winter weather conditions by either the North Lebanon Township Police Officer on duty or a 911 dispatcher. Once a call is made, it generally takes 30-60 minutes before the winter maintenance operation begins. Each driver must perform a "pre-trip" inspection of the vehicle before loading the material. Depending on the timing of the storm, application of anti-skid and salt usually takes 3 hours, and plowing takes nearly 8 hours. Salt is stored under roof with a capacity of nearly 600 tons. Anti-skid material is also stored under roof with a capacity of 300 tons. In a typical year, the Highway Department uses 400 tons of salt and 800 tons of anti-skid. We typically use a ratio of 2/1 anti-skid to salt mixture. During a typical "callout", the Highway Department uses about 40 tons of salt and 80 tons of anti-skid. Materials have to be ordered and trucked in throughout the winter season.

The first operation during a snow event of any magnitude is to get salt and anti-skid down on the roads to keep the snow from adhering to the road surface. Salt can melt off at a depth of 2" of snow depending on the conditions. Temperatures above 20°F and traffic help the salt to work at its' best. Temperatures below 20°F will cause salt to lose the effectiveness. Under these conditions the additive of calcium chloride or magnesium chloride should be added to the salt. At the

present time the Highway Department has limited capabilities to use calcium chloride, as a salt additive.

In a snow event where multiple inches are forecast, applying salt and anti-skid is still the first part of the operation. After this material has been laid, plows are attached, and snow plowing begins. Plowing usually takes place when there is 3 to 4 inches of snow accumulated. Material can still be put down during the plowing process and most of the time it is. In certain persistent storms that require the routes to be plowed several times, the anti-skid and salt mixture is not put down again until the end of the storm is near. This is done primarily to save material from being wasted.

Each driver is assigned to a route that the driver normally follows year after year. This will allow each driver to become accustomed to problem areas such as hills and curves. These routes have been well thought out. First are the high traffic roads with hills. Getting to these roads right away is important for obvious reasons. Traffic can quickly pack down the snow making it glaze over and extremely slippery. With steep hills that are in the mix, multiple accidents are possible, and an impassible road is probable. Second, consideration is given to keep main roads open. As the storm draws to an end, the other streets, such as those in developments, are addressed.

THE ROUTES

Western District – Truck #2 and #6 (Single Axle 10-ton Dump Trucks) – and wheel loader with plow

Central District – Truck #4(Tandem Axle 15-ton Dump Truck) – and JD tractor and plow

Eastern District – Truck #3 (Tandem Axle 15-ton Dump Truck) – and wheel loader with plow

Future District – In 2019 we will be adding another small dump truck with plow and salt spreader

Main roads are plowed first and maintained in a passable condition during the snow event. Under a "normal" snow event, the streets in a development are addressed near the end of the storm.

Routes do change a little depending on various circumstances and manpower. All vehicles are cleaned and checked after each and every snow event. Equipment failures are common in the winter as equipment is exposed to severe conditions. Plow blades wear out and must be replaced periodically, spreader augers wear out, hoses burst, lights burn out, and all these are problems that must

be dealt with during the winter. We are fortunate to have a mechanic on staff that can be called out for repairs, as necessary, during these snow events.

Finally, the Township considers the role that the resident plays in snow removal. Snowstorms are stressful for both our residents and our Highway Crew. When a storm occurs during the week around rush hour, traffic becomes one of those uncontrollable problems, slowing down our operation significantly. Shoveling snow out on to the road, is a violation and individuals can be issued a citation by our Police Department. This snow can re-freeze and cause a driver to lose control of his vehicle; a potential liability for you.

Township drivers are not permitted to clean driveways or to do anything special for any of our 11,500+ residents. With maintaining 62.64 miles of Township roads, we must focus on the goal of clearing Township streets for the traveling public. If you must clean your driveway before the trucks are completely finished with plowing the street, clean an area before your driveway (based on the direction of travel) to allow the bulk of the snow to discharge there instead of your driveway. Also, make sure your mailbox post is strong and able to withstand snow hitting the post as it is being discharged from the plow. Check the mailbox and make sure it is firmly attached to the post. Mailboxes are considered a structure in the Township right-of-way. A sound post and securely attached mailbox should not be knocked over by snow coming off the plow. All drivers are instructed to drive as slowly as realistically possible during wet snows to minimize problems with mailboxes. Mailboxes knocked down because of snow are the responsibility of the resident.

For those residents that live in an area with public water, please remember to clear the snow around the fire hydrants in your area. During an emergency, time is of the essence, so clearing out the fire hydrants following a snow event will eventually save precious seconds/minutes should an emergency occur in your neighborhood.

Please stay clear of equipment when in use or idling. Because of various equipment attached to the truck, the driver may not see you. For these reasons you should NEVER approach a driver unless he acknowledges you. Do NOT assume they see you, as you may be in a blind spot, or the driver may be focused on other obstacles.

The North Lebanon Township Highway Department is committed to providing the best service as possible. As mentioned, a lot of problems are uncontrollable, traffic, time of storm (day or night), duration of the storm, amount of snow, wind, equipment failures, and fatigue, all hinder the process. Please be patient and help us help you. Remember, no two storms are alike and most times the way we address a storm is based on weather forecasts, which we all know are not always accurate.