

## **The Town of Nokomis Winter Road Maintenance Policy**

The following outlines the policy used in keeping the town of Nokomis's nearly 54 miles of roads open and safe for vehicular traffic. The Road Supervisor under the direction of the Nokomis Town Board designed this policy.

Safety in winter road maintenance is the Town's main concern not only to provide safe roads but also to keep its employees and operations safe. A large portion of the budget and time goes into this operation. There are Wisconsin State Statutes that help the Town in setting guidelines. However, there are many things that the road user and property owner can do to help these are outlined on page 2. The safest winter road is one that is traveled by the user with caution and discretion.

Due to the unpredictable weather in northern Wisconsin each occurrence is different. The town utilizes all weather forecasts in determining when and how the town equipment will be used. To date the Town utilizes 3 snowplows and the use of sand, which provides traction. Sand does not melt snow/ice and its use is determined by the weather forecasts and supply budgeted for the season. The dispatch of equipment is also determined by forecasts and budget (i.e. Snowfalls of fewer than 3 inches may not be plowed if prior the road has been cleared and sanded). No parking on roadways is allowed from October Through May.

The town is divided into 3 plow routes with roads being prioritized by the following; 1: Major collector road/ School Bus Route (i.e. Prairie Rapids from Cnty L to Cnty Y). 2: Minor collector road/ School Bus Route (i.e. any road that leads into a sub-division or connects to a Major Collector road). 3: Sub Division / Secondary road (i.e. No outlet sub division roads or a non- developed road which use is limited to recreation or logging). A list of road order is on page 3.

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Winter driving is a challenge for road users and plow operators. Please follow these guidelines to make travel safe:

- Roads may not be cleared at time of your travel. The Town has up to 3 weeks to properly clear a road (Wi. statute 893.83 sub 1)\*. Allow extra travel times.
- Roads are slippery allow extra stopping and following distance.
- Do not follow plows closely minimum distance is 200 feet of a working plow (Wi. statute 346.915)\*. Remember when a plow is working it needs to back up. Please allow distance between you and the plow so the operator can see you.
- Drive with your lights on and use your signals even in daylight hours this makes you more visible.
- Keep your windows clear snow and moisture.

Keeping your property clear of snow can be a challenge for you and the plow operators. Please follow these guidelines:

- The plowing of snow across a roadway or onto another property is against the law (Wi. statutes 86.01 and 346.94 sub 5) \*. You as the property owner are liable for this. If you hire a private contractor for snow clearing be sure they are aware of this law.
- Do not push or mound snow at the edge of a road, push it 6 to 8 feet back, this allows for safe sightlines and maintenance of the road.
- If your property allows, clear 30 to 40 feet before your driveway this allows the blade of the plow truck to empty before your driveway leaving a smaller windrow.

It is the plow operators' responsibility to open the road to allow for mail delivery, the property owner is responsible for cleaning around their mailboxes; these guidelines will avoid mailbox damages.

- Clear before, under and around your mailbox completely, allowing snow to build up in these areas will cause the plow wing to jump up and hit the mailbox. Allowing snow to pack in and around your mailbox will increase the chance of damage. When installing your mailbox follow the U.S. Postal Service guideline for proper height and setback. Try to avoid placing your mailbox on a curve in the road (See Illustrations page 4).
- Inspect your mailbox and post before winter, replaced old or worn material. Mailbox damage occurs more from plow discharge and weak mailbox materials.
- If the area around your mailbox is kept clear and it is determined that it was damaged by the plow operator, the Town will replace it with a standard 4x4 treated post and standard metal rural route box.
- Summer residents may consider removing their mailbox before winter or installing a swing away style mailbox and swing it away from road.

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Plow Route 1:

- Prairie Rapids, Lee Rd (south to Cnty. Y), Lee Rd (North), Lylas Rd, Prairie Lake Rd, Sam's Run Rd, Swamp Lake Rd (Prairie Lake west to Town of Little Rice line).
- Lee Rd (Lylas Rd to Cnty Y), Welbes Rd.
- Lund Rd, Sweek Rd.
- North, East, Center, South Rds, River Rd, Tomanok Rd.
- Schoettler Rd, Elto Rd, South Schoettler Rd, Heuser Rd.
- Smokey Dr, Peaceful Ln, Jack Pine Ln, Abbey Dr, Gentle Ben Rd.
- Quiet Cove, Nest

Plow Route 2:

- Point o' Pines Rd (Cnty L to Prairie Rapids Rd)
- Lake Nokomis Rd (Cnty L to Cnty N).
- Lakewood Rd, Norway Ln, Branch Rd, McKay Rd, Jenny Lake Rd, Bearskin Creek Ln.
- Olson Rd, Seimering Rd
- Hidden Waters Rd, Bridge Lake Rd, Hazy Bay Rd, N Hidden Waters Rd.
- Eastbay Ln, Back Bay Cr (Serviced by Nokomis in odd years, Bradley even years). Sunset Dr.
- Old Rd, Indian Pine Point Rd, Arrowhead Dr.
- Nancy Dr, Margaret Dr, Hall Dr, Ellen Court, Mohawk Trail, Faust Rd.
- Fire Dept. Cougar Ln.

Plow Route3:

- Hanse Dr, Rocky Rd, NVFD, Deer Trail Rd.
- Krystal Kove Rd, Point o Pines Rd West. Point Rd West , Myre, Ernst, The oint Rd East, Woodland Trail / Pine Cone Ln.
- Buckhorn Rd, Town Hall.
- Ross Rd, Merrill Rd / White Rd.
- Varga Rd, Eastbay Ln, Back Bay Cr (Serviced by Nokomis in odd years, Bradley even years).
- Robinson Rd, Sumac Ln.
- Water Pick up @ Bridge, Town Shop

Plowed on day after snowfall, Recreation/Logging roads; Abe Rd. Lois Rd. Swamp Creek Rd. Wood Rd. Water Pick up @ Bridge, Mary's Park, Prairie Rapids Cemetery, Walking trail (Community Park)

Nokomis roads serviced by other townships Swamp Lake Rd (U.S.51 to Prairie Lake Rd (plowed by Cassian Township), Camp Rice Point Rd. (plowed by Bradley Township.)

Not plowed; Birch Rd, Forest Ln, Trails End Rd, Cruisers Ln.

