

TOWN OF WALDEN
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT WINTER OPERATIONS POLICY

1. Plow routes are set up to open the major traffic and school bus routes first. After these are open and cleared, the remainder of the roads will be plowed at the discretion of the Highway Foreman, taking into account traffic volume, steepness and curves.
2. The Town of Walden has two full time and one call in contractor to do winter maintenance on approximately 49 miles of town highways. Each employee has a specific route that takes approximately 4-5 hours to complete. Generally these routes will vary only for emergency situations such as fire and ambulance calls.
3. The Town will enforce NO Parking at all times on the travelled portion of all highways within the town's right-of-way, town parking lots and in school bus and plow truck turnarounds. Vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.
4. The town does not plow any private roads or Class 4 Highways.
5. The town crew usually starts their day at 3:30 AM during a snow storm in order to have major traffic and bus routes open and clear by 7 AM. In most cases there will be no winter maintenance between the hours of 8:00 PM and 3:30 AM in order for town personnel to get required rest.
6. The Town of Walden does not have a bare roads policy. Travelers who use town roads should exercise due care and reasonable caution during changing weather conditions. Plan for your own safe travel including maintaining your vehicle with proper snow tires.
7. Salt will be applied to paved roads as necessary.
8. Sand will be applied on all gravel roads as necessary. Sand may contain particles as large as 9/16 inches in size and may cause windshield damage. Travelers should maintain a safe driving distance when following other vehicles or town trucks. The town will not pay for any vehicle repair such as replacement of windshields.
9. Objects in the town's right-of-way are placed at the owner's risk and the town assumes no responsibility for any damage to objects placed in violation of the state's statutes. Common items are trees, fences, flowers, stone walls, and mailboxes. The town is not responsible for damage to mailboxes.
10. State law (23 V.S.A. section 1126a) prohibits plowing snow or shoveling snow from a private road or drive across or onto town or state highways. Violators may be subject to a fine or penalty.

Adopted by Walden Selectboard on January 10, 2018 and is effective immediately.

Jonathon Augeri
Randolph Wilson