



BLAINE COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE

206 FIRST AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 300

HAILEY, ID 83333

PHONE: (208) 788-5543 FAX: (208) 788-5569 SHOP PHONE: (208) 788-5580

www.blainecounty.org

Snow Removal Policy

Snow Removal Priority

The Priority in which the roads will be plowed is as follows:

Priority 1

All major through roads and/or school bus routes. To be plowed once every 24 hours during major snow events. Loose snow will be cleared. Intersections will be sanded as needed. Driveways may receive some snow from plowing trucks.

Priority 2

Residential subdivision roads. To be plowed not later than Day 2 of snow events. Loose snow will be cleared. Driveways may receive some snow from plowing trucks.

Priority 3

Roads that lead to in-holdings which are primarily recreational access in nature. These roads have historically had little or no year-round residential use. Priority 3 will receive Day 3 plowing. Driveways may receive some snow from plowing trucks.

Warm Springs Road (*above paved roadway*):

Warm Springs is a canyon road that is subject to avalanche. The supervisor will conduct a Risk Assessment and implement control measures as needed. The following are control measures:

- The road will only be plowed during daylight hours.
- Two snowplows will be used with a minimum distance of ½ mile between the plows.
- During times of high avalanche danger, the road will not be plowed until the danger moderates.
- Supervisor will check local Avalanche Center website at www.avalanche.org for Danger rating.
- Operators will conduct pit test onsite to further determine snow stability and danger.
- Operators will wear Avalanche Beacons while clearing Warm Springs Road.

West Magic Road:

West Magic Road is a road that is subject to high winds and drifting snow. The majority of West Magic Road is in Camas County. Blaine County will plow the road after all regular routes are plowed. It may not be plowed until the day following the initial storm. Most of the traffic is recreational in nature and the majority of residents are retired.

The Accumulation Of Snow

Snowplow operation will commence when the snow depth has reached three inches.

The following exceptions to the three-inch rule are:

- Weekends
- When three-inch depth is reached after 3:00 p.m. on week days

On the weekend, snowplow operation will begin when the storm ends unless the storm ends between the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. In which case, snowplow operations will begin at 3:00 a.m.

On a weekday when three-inch depth is reached after 3:00 p.m., snowplow operations will begin at 3:00 am the following morning.

During the work week days, should it become apparent that the storm is going to continue throughout the day, the snowplows will be dispatched to plow the main arteries during the early afternoon. This will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Gannett Road
- Broadford Road
- Buttercup Road
- Broadway run
- Ohio Gulch Road
- Croy Creek
- East Fork (*main road*)
- Baseline Road
- Shed Road
- Priest Road
- Cutoff Road
- Indian Creek
- Little Wood
- Austin Road
- Warm Springs Road (*paved*)

Level of Service

Loose snow will be removed from the road surface to road right of ways. Due to funding constraints and limited crew size, bare pavement conditions will not be achieved. In residential areas, some driveways will receive snow, but operators will try not to fill them. County crew will not clear driveways or other private roads. Residents should keep garbage cans out of the road, and other items out of the right of way to facilitate snow plowing and storage. County will not be liable for broken fences, trees and other items located in the road right of way. Unless Emergency plowing mission is required, county crew will plow no more than a 12 hour shift due to safety policies. Emergency plowing missions are required for mobility of ambulances, fire trucks, and Sheriff Search and Rescue to incident sites along county roads. During large, continuous storms, county plow crew will resume plowing the next morning during Day 2 following a minimum 8 hour rest period. County snow plow effort is not manned for 24 hour per day clearance and sanding effort.

Drifting Conditions

High winds will cause drifting of snow. Whenever possible, snowplow operations will not commence until the wind stops blowing. The exception to this will be the school bus routes between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Icy Conditions

The main corridor (Highway 75) will be monitored daily. All county intersections onto Highway 75 and any paved grades steeper than 10% will be sanded prior to 8:00 a.m. as needed.

Gannett Road

Due to the nature of traffic on Gannett Road it will be handled differently in this respect. All icy spots will be sanded twice daily; once prior to 8:00 a.m. and again prior to 3:00 pm.

Should icy conditions exist longer than three working days, a grader will be utilized to cut the ice and snow build-up off the road.

Closure of Roads

Roads are to be closed for public travel when, in the judgment of the supervisor, it is unsafe for the public to travel on the roads.

The correct procedure to follow when closing a road is:

1. Notify a County Operations officer
2. Notify County emergency communications services.
3. Sign and barricade each end of the road that is to be closed

When conditions are such that schools should be closed, the decision to do so must be made prior to 6:00 a.m. in the morning. Before 6:00 a.m., should any condition exist that could negatively impact the school buses' ability to complete their routes, the supervisor in charge must be notified. The supervisor will then contact the bus barn supervisor (Rex Squires) at 788-7542.