

# Winter Maintenance Plan

## I. Level of service:

**Goal “Bare pavement Maintenance” Completion of plowing and spreading of material within six hours after the storm.**

## II. Winter Storm Management:

**A. Spreading Storm.** (0-2 inches of frozen precipitation). We will apply sodium chloride (rock salt) throughout the storm to keep the traffic lanes passable. Depending on temperature and build up, we may plow to remove any snow, slush or ice. The Average cycle is normally three hours to treat all traffic lanes. Expect completion of winter maintenance within three hours after the storm.

**B. Plowing Storm.** (A storm expected to produce more than two inches of precipitation.) We will plow and treat the roads with rock salt to maintain passable traffic lanes throughout the storm. We will continue to plow and spread material until all lanes are free of snow and ice. On street parking and shoulder areas are plowed as soon as practical following the storm. During more severe storms, PA Borough may choose to redirect equipment or personnel from less-traveled roads until all lanes are open and free of ice and snow. An average cycle is about three hours. Expect completion of winter maintenance activity to be within six hours after the storm.

**C. Ice Storm.** A storm that is expected to produce significant freezing sleet or a combination of the two is treated as an ice storm.

We will then spread winter materials over all ordained roads throughout the storm until all lanes are free of snow and ice. We will apply materials primarily to hills, emergency routes, and bus

routes. Upon completion, we will apply winter materials to remaining Boro ordained roads. Average cycle is two hours. **Because roads can quickly become impassable during these dangerous storm events, motorists are encouraged to limit travel to essential trips only.**

#### **D. Snow Removal**

PWD will begin snow removal process within 36 hours after a major storm (six inches or more) event. Primary focus is on Route 512, Robinson Ave, Main St, school bus routes, and any additional areas which render a roadway impassable. **PA Boro may limit access and /or close portions of a roadway to safely and efficiently remove snow.**

#### **E. Spot deicing**

Generally, will occur day after a storm or when roads are deemed unsafe by on duty police officer. The average time to cover all ordained roads within the Borough is two hours.

### **III. Equipment, Materials, and Personnel**

#### **A. Equipment**

Pen Argyl Borough has four vehicles equipped for winter maintenance.

GMC 5500 2006.

GMC 5500 2008

Chevy 3500 2013

Ford F250 2001

Generally 3 trucks are in use throughout the storm.

#### **B. Materials**

We use sodium chloride as our deicing agent.

#### **C. Personnel**

Currently, we have three driver operators. On occasion members from Council and the Fire Co. will volunteer during a major snow event.

## **IV. Storm Operations**

The PWD is dispatched by the PW Director and off hours by the roving officer on duty. Normally we begin ops when there is a coating to 1 inch of precipitation. We plow and spread material throughout the storm.

We have three established routes, encompassing all Boro ordained roads and state roads we agree to treat.

### **Emergency callouts**

PWD personnel have 60 minutes from the time of call to respond. Generally we respond within 30 minutes.

### **If you must travel,**

#### **Pen Argyl Borough Offers These Winter Driving Tips:**

Carry a winter emergency travel kit.

Listen to weather and travel advisories, and if you don't have to travel in bad weather, don't.

Keep your gas tank at least half full.

Slow down and increase following distance.

Avoid sudden stops and starts.

Beware of roads that may look wet, but are actually frozen, often referred to as "black ice."

Use extra caution on bridges and ramps where ice can often form without warning.

Carry a cell phone.

Do not use cruise control while driving on snow-covered roads.

**State law requires you to turn on your headlights when your wipers are on.**

Use your low beams in bad weather, especially in cases of heavy or blowing snow.

**Remove ice and snow from windows, mirrors and all vehicle lights as often as needed.**

**Remove snow and ice from the hood and roof of your vehicle. State law states that if snow or ice from your vehicle strikes a vehicle or person and causes death or injury, you can be ticketed.**

Do not park or abandon your vehicle on snow emergency routes.

**Do not pass or get between trucks plowing in a plow line (several trucks plowing side by side).**

Make sure someone else knows where you are going and when you expect to arrive. In case you run into an emergency and need help, someone will know where to look for you.

If you do become stranded, it's better to stay with your vehicle until help arrives. Run the engine every hour or so, but make sure the tailpipe is clear and keep the downwind window cracked open. Do not drink and drive and always wear your seat belt.