

Policy 59

Snow Removal Policy

Following is a brief description of Hanover's winter road maintenance policy & activities. We ask for your cooperation so our municipality can service its residents, businesses and visitors efficiently and safely.

There are no annual public works activities that have more uncontrollable factors and that have more impact on our community than winter snow and ice control operations. Most of those uncontrollable factors relate to weather, the amount of snowfall, the rate of snowfall, the duration of the storm, conditions, and the type of snow (wet or dry). These factors impact the planning of resources and associated costs, including manpower, equipment, and materials.

Hanover Township budgets sufficient funds for winter road maintenance operations. The Road Crew services approximately 60+ miles of township roads. We do provide winter services on Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (State) Roads, specifically Hanoverville Road.

We have developed a snow plan which coordinates our twelve (12) drivers in specific areas as segmented on maps. The Board of Supervisors also provide for the hiring of additional plows and operators in the event of a "major" snow and/or ice event. Our priority policy for addressing road clearing is:

1. Emergency facilities
2. Major collector roads used as school routes
3. Developments
4. Cul-de-sac bulb clearing & intersection cleaning
5. Township owned property and sidewalks

The operation may deviate from the above priority list in the case of unforeseen emergency requirements such as ambulance, fire or medical emergencies. It is the policy of Hanover Township to clear all roads from "curb to curb" in anticipation of future storms and provide safe traveling for the motoring public.

Heavier populated areas of the township present a problem for snow removal due to vehicle parking. If possible remove your vehicle from the roadway area and park in your driveway.

The Board of Supervisors has adopted the "right-of-way" policies of PennDOT and neighboring municipalities. The policy regards the placement of trees, flower gardens, fences, mailboxes, posts, etc., along the roadway. The Township will not reimburse for any damages to items placed in its "right-of-way" caused by snow removal. It is not the intent of any employee of Hanover Township to willfully cause damage to the property of its residents. Our equipment will discharge snow in driveways during the course of snow plowing. This is not done with willful intent, but is a result of normal plowing operation and the moving of snow.

Hanover Township may find it necessary to declare a "Snow Emergency" when the effects of the weather dictate. When Hanover Township declares a "Snow Emergency" it is broadcast on WAEB – 790 AM, WFMZ – Channel 69 and via the Hanover Township Email Alert System. Hanover Township is not responsible should these outlets not broadcast a message in a timely manner after notification.

Please plan your activities accordingly with predicted or actual snowfall or icing events. Your assistance and patience will aid us in providing a reasonable level of service during the winter months. Should you need special assistance or have a unique problem you can call the township office at (610.866.1140) and we will appraise and prioritize your situation and act on it accordingly.

Adopted December 18, 2007