

**MONROE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
SNOW AND ICE CONTROL
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)
UPDATED 1/31/2013**

PURPOSE

As a result of the present financial condition of the Monroe County Road Commission (MCRC) and the need to provide reasonable and consistent winter snow removal for the residents of Monroe County, this outline is intended to offer guidelines that minimize costs but still result in acceptable service.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MCRC

State Roads, Primary Roads and School Routes (Roads on which schools are located):

Under the State contract, the **MDOT Priority 1- Orange Route** will be plowed on a 24-hour basis from start of the snow event until clear pavement is obtained. Salting will cease once the snow starts to accumulate and resume when snowfall ceases. All roadways will be scraped and plowed continually.

MDOT Priority 2-Blue Route, MCRC Primary Roads and School Routes will also be cleared on a 24-hour basis from the start of the snow event to the point at which the snow ceases, and clear pavement is obtained.

Local Roads: Local Roads will be cleared on straight time. Salting will only take place on intersections, hills, railroad crossings, and known dangerous curves, or as deemed necessary due to conditions.

Subdivisions: Will be cleared during the day shift when time permits. Intersections, hills, and curves will be cleared and salted when the conditions cause a major safety concern.

Equipment and Procedure Improvements: Some MCRC trucks are equipped with a pre-wetting system which increases salt reaction time and assists in keeping salt from bouncing off the paved roadway, therefore increasing the efficiency and reducing costs by nearly 30%. Future truck purchases will be given consideration for pre-wetting systems as well.

The MCRC may mix sand with salt at a rate of approximately four (4) parts salt to one (1) part sand, when conditions warrant. This mixture both minimizes the salt use and provides skid resistance when salt is least effective, generally when low temperatures are present.

Stone chips or slag may be applied to intersections, curves, hills and railroad crossings on soft surface roads, when conditions warrant to provide skid resistance.

Snow may be cleared from road shoulders when depth exceeds three (3) inches. Generally, this is only done if blowing and drifting conditions are present or if build up is such that there is nowhere to put snow in the event of future storms. Maintaining the integrity of the shoulder surface is of high priority to MCRC, therefore every effort to not touch the shoulder is taken.

Link for MDOT Winter level map

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_LoS_map_University08-09_FINAL_255165_7.pdf