

1.B Specific Information for Motorists, Residents and Property Owners

1.B.1 How residents and Property Owners can help assure the safety and efficiency of the Town of Olean's snow and ice control operations, and their own snow removal operations.

Do not park on Town of Olean roads, especially during snow or ice events. Vehicles will be ticketed and/or towed if necessary to clear snow and ice from the roadway. A local law is in place that prohibits parking on Town owned roadways from November 1st to April 1st of each year.

Do not place trash cans within 2 feet of the edge of the pavement.

Keep basketball devices at least 10 feet from the edge of the pavement.

Do not park cars in driveways within 10 feet of the edge of the pavement.

Do not allow children to build and occupy "snow forts" and similar creations within 10 feet of the edge of the pavement.

Do not relocate snow from driveways or other areas into the paved roadway. This is violation of New York State Highway Law (Article 8, Section 214) and will cause a hazardous condition on the street.

Fences should not be within 10 feet of the edge of the pavement.

Trim trees so that branches do not extend beyond the back of the shoulder of the roadway.

Pile most of the snow from the driveway entrance on the traffic downstream side. This will minimize visibility problems.

Shovel or plow an area immediately upstream of your driveway throat to accommodate plowed snow from the roadway. This will lessen build-up in your driveway entrance.

Cooperate with the winter parking regulations that are in effect.

1.B.2 Roads within the Town of Olean that are not maintained by the municipality.

The following is a list of roads that are not maintained by the Town of Olean from November 1st to April 1st of each year.

Indiana Avenue (unpaved section)

Wayman Branch Rd (unpaved section)

Two Mile Rd (unpaved section)

Blakeslee Hollow Rd (unpaved section)

Indian Creek Rd (unpaved section)

East Page Rd

These roads are posted as seasonal roads and do not receive maintenance from the municipality from November 1st to April 1st.

1.B.3 Private Driveways and Roads

The Town of Olean Highway Department snow removal crews do not clear private roads, driveways or driveway entrances of accumulated snow and ice. The Town of Olean Highway Department will only assist local public safety agencies with snow and ice removal in emergency situations.

1.B.4 Plow trucks having plows raised.

A truck with a raised plow does not always mean the plow driver has completed your area.

They may be:

- Returning for fuel or vehicle service

- Returning to the maintenance yard for additional treatment material

- Responding to a call to assist Emergency Services

1.B.5 Mailboxes, mailbox posts and other features that may be damaged by Town of Olean plowing operations.

You can help reduce the possibility of a damaged/broken mailbox or mailbox post. Plow operators are urged to take precautions to avoid hitting mailbox posts. Experience has shown that reduced visibility during a storm makes it difficult for a driver to see a post in time to avoid striking it or pushing it over with plowed snow.

Any installation within the right of way of a mailbox or mailbox post is placed there at the owner's risk

Owners are encouraged to install mailboxes at the minimum usable distance from the edge of the pavement. Posts should also be checked for deterioration to reduce the possibility that the weight of the plowed snow may simply break or push the post over. The Town of Olean will not repair or replace mailboxes or posts damaged by the force or placement of plowed snow.

The Town of Olean will not repair plow damage to grass and other plantings that are adjacent to the road. Keep in mind that grass and other greenery may be located within the right of way and is susceptible to damage during the removal of snow by plow drivers.

1.B.6 Contacting the Town of Olean during a snow or ice event

Avoid calling municipal offices during a storm. Personnel are extremely busy dealing with storm conditions.

Please keep telephone lines clear for emergencies.

Phone messages for the Highway Department can be left at 716-372-1060.

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

2.A Goal of snow and ice control operations

The Town of Olean will conduct snow and ice removal activities that afford customers a reasonably safe and passable (not necessarily bare) road surface. To accomplish that, snow and ice accumulations will be removed as soon as possible, consistent with stated priorities and resources. To the extent possible, the bond of snow and ice to the pavement will be prevented by the timely application of snow and ice control material. Abrasives may be used as necessary to provide temporary traction improvement.

Certain conditions such as the unavailability of equipment and/or personnel, blizzards, whiteouts, or other locally severe snow or ice events, thin ice formation in the absence of or during very light and spotty precipitation and other conditions unknown to or beyond the control of the Town of Olean maintenance forces may temporarily prevent achieving this goal.

2.B Operational priorities and personnel policies

The Town of Olean has established a traffic volume and route type classification system for determining the priority of snow and ice control operations. A written description that follows includes: priority and timing, level of service provided between 9 PM and 5 AM, and a list of known trouble locations.

Normally, the Town of Olean Highway Department will plow and treat roads between the hours of 5 AM and 9 PM. It is the opinion that most traffic occurs during this time. Exceptions to this rule will be made during heavy snow events.

Primary roads will receive treatment prior to secondary low volume roads. Roads with steep grades will receive treatment prior to secondary low volume roads. Routes will also receive priority taking into consideration the bus routes of local school districts.

2.B.1 Hours of continuous duty

A driver may be on duty for a maximum of 16 continuous hours. After that, the driver must be off duty for a minimum of 8 continuous hours before returning to work. This rule may be given exception if a state of emergency has been declared.

2.B.2 Call in procedures

Drivers are required to report for duty within 30 minutes of notification. Call in will be made according to the rules established under the labor contract.

2.B.3 Fitness for duty

All drivers will report fit for duty. The drug and alcohol policy as outlined by the New York State CDL requirements will apply at all times.

2.B.4 Liability

The Town of Olean will provide for legal defense to employees for actions resulting from performing their official duties as long as the employee:

Did not break the law

Was acting within the scope of his/her official duties

New York State Public Officers Law Section 18

2.B.5 Applied Laws

New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 1103

Town of Olean employees conducting snow and ice control operations should adhere to the provisions of the vehicle and traffic law. However, it is recognized that in order to properly perform required maintenance, some provisions of the vehicle and traffic law must be violated. Actions like clearing snow over highway center lines, and backing into traffic flow to clear intersections are necessary. Any necessary violations of the vehicle and traffic law must be performed **"with due regard for the safety of all persons"**.

As of 02/02/2017 10:26AM , the Laws database is current through
2017 Chapters 1-6

Highway

§ 214. Depositing ashes, snow, ice, stones, sticks, et cetera upon the highway. Any person who shall deposit or throw loose stones in the gutter or grass adjoining a town highway, or shall deposit or throw upon a highway, ashes, papers, snow, ice, stones, sticks, or other rubbish, shall be liable to a penalty not to exceed one hundred dollars to be sued for and recovered by the town superintendent. No stone or other rubbish shall be drawn to and deposited within the limits of any highway, except for the purpose of filling in a depression or otherwise improving the highway, and only with the written consent and under the direction of the town superintendent.