



Town of Pownal

Independent Unto Itself
Public Works

NOTES FROM THE ROAD COMMISSIONER

April 8, 2019

2019 ROAD POSTINGS HEAVY LOADS LIMITED EFFECTIVE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019

The following roads are closed, unless SOLIDLY FROZEN, to all vehicles or combination of vehicles; the road is considered "solidly frozen" only when the air temperature is 32 degrees F or below and no water is showing in the cracks of the road. Both conditions must be met.

- Allen Rd (From Elmwood to Fickett)
- Brown Rd
- Chadsey Rd
- Depot Rd
- Dows Ln
- Durham Rd
- Fickett Rd
- Hodsdon Rd
- Lawrence Rd
- Leighton Rd
- Libby Rd
- Loring Ln
- Merrill Rd
- Minot Rd
- Poland Range Rd
- Royal Rd
- Sweetser Rd
- Tryon Rd
- Tuttle Rd
- Upper Minot Rd
- Verrill Rd
- Wilson Rd

POSTINGS WILL BE LIFTED MAY 1, 2019 OR EARLIER IF POSSIBLE

EXEMPTIONS: Emergency Vehicles, Public Utilities, Municipal Vehicles, Home Heating Fuel Delivery Trucks, Bulk Milk/Bulk Feed Trucks with a MDOT exemption certificate, any vehicle or combination of vehicles registered for a gross weight in excess of 23,000lbs and traveling WITH OUT A LOAD other than tools or equipment necessary for the proper operation of the vehicles. This exemption does not apply to special mobile equipment. A scale ticket must accompany any vehicle showing weight of vehicle and load is said to be 23,000lbs or under.

For emergency situations, permits will be issued. To apply for a permit please contact Dick Clarke at 207-688-4407 or 207-650-0433.

NOTES:

- With the change in our weather to begin the spring thaw and mud season. We have been busy with keeping the roads passable for emergency vehicles and the school buses. We have had some good drying weather (windy with no rain and moderate temps) in the past two weeks. This will give us an opportunity to allow the roads to dry so we can grade them. Please bear with us as we work around the weather conditions. The ground is saturated with water as can be noted in yards and fields. snow/ice melt with additional precipitation is the obstacle we face this time of year.
- In the past two weeks we have concentrated on the gravel roads. But are limited to what we can do. Many of the problems have been ongoing and are being identified in the long-term gravel road plan I am working on for the selectmen and



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Capital Improvement Committee. Clay, Ledge and “Dead Sand” are unsuitable for good gravel roads. For us to have good gravel roads we need the “Three D’s” Surface Drainage, Sub Surface Drainage and Side Drainage. And a good draining road base and surface gravel put back into the roads to what has been lost over the years from plowing, wind, erosion, dust and tracking.

- The crew and I attended a “Stream Smart” Road Crossing workshop on April 4 at the Gilsland Farm Audubon Center in Falmouth. This training is in line with the Maine DEP funding grant that we will be applying for the Poland Road Multiplate. The grant application period will be opening soon.
- On April 24th we will be attending a Work Zone Traffic Control Workshop that is a Maine Bureau of Labor Standards required training.
- We were inspected by the Maine Municipal Association Risk Management Service on February 6th to identify (at my request) any areas of concern that could be a safety violation or hazard.
Identified items noted:
 1. Pressure vessel inspection of the shop air compressor (**completed**).
 2. Annual testing of the well water for the eyewash station. (**pending next town office water test**)
 3. Posting Caution Falling Ice and Snow on both the sand shed and town garage (**to be completed by 4-11-19**)All other areas were satisfactory.
- I am presently working on our work projects list for this year. This includes work on the gravel roads, vegetation maintenance (brush, tree work and roadside mowing)
- I want to thank the town’s people that have contacted me with road concerns. This does help us to respond in a more efficient and effective way.
Cell Phone/Text 207-650-0433, Office Phone 207-688-4407 or
Email: publicworks@pownalmaine.org
- In case of an emergency I (Dick Clarke) can be reached at 207-650-0433 or Brunswick Dispatch at 207-721-4301.