# Franconia Township

## **Snow Removal Policy**

## 2021-03-13

**Policy Statement:** The goal of the Township is to have all roads passable within a reasonable amount of time after a snowfall. The Township does not assure a completely bare road and will not sand entire sections of the roadway. Users of the Township road system are expected to use and exercise caution when on the roads.

## **Snow Removal Procedure**

#### A. Dispatching of snow plows

Snowplows will be dispatched when a minimum of 3" of snow has occurred, and the snowfall has stopped. During extended periods of snowfall, exceptions may be made. Snowplows will not be sent out in situations that are deemed to be hazardous.

If snowfall stops during regular working hours, plows may be dispatched at that time. If the snowfall stops during the night or early morning hours, plows will be dispatched at an early morning time according to the conditions. Weekend plowing will be handled in a similar fashion.

Franconia Township does not assure a bare road, and will not normally salt or sand entire sections of Roadway. Users of our road system are reminded to exercise caution and drive with care.

#### B. Operations

Clearing of the roads will be carried out in the following stages;

- 1. Making the road passable. Clearing one lane in each direction
- 2. Widening the road. Sanding may be done in problem areas.
- 3. Clean up. Removal of ice and slush as demand allows.

## C. Personal Properties

Franconia Township is not responsible for damage to items left in the right-of-way, including but not limited to sod, landscaping, fencing, vehicles, trailers, dumpsters, etc. If the Board

determines items left in the right-of-way pose an unreasonable risk or interferes with snowplowing operations, the Board may have the items removed at the owner's expense.

Franconia Township is not responsible for damage to mailboxes caused by thrown ice or snow. The Township is responsible only for damage caused by direct contact with the snowplow and will be limited to no more than \$40.00 for reimbursement and only with the proper Town Board notification, investigation, and approval.

#### D. Resident Plowing

Franconia Township residents are reminded it is unlawful under Minnesota Statute 160.2715 (A) (1) to plow snow from driveways onto or across public roads. Piles of snow left on or near the road can freeze into a solid mass creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Piles of snow increase the chance of drifting snow in the roadway. This can cause a safety hazard. Accidents and damages caused by snow piles placed in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner. If a problem persists, the proper authorities will be notified. A violation of 160.2715 is a misdemeanor and as such is punishable by up to ninety days in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000.00.

#### E. Safety

Franconia Township residents are reminded to yield right-of-way of the snowplow for safety.

#### F. Information

Questions or concerns regarding snow removal and/or road conditions should be directed to the Township Chairman or to the Supervisors.

Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021

Owen Kuhnly, Chairman

Angela Dahlstrom, Clerk