

LaMoure County Highway Department Adopted 12/16/2025 **Snow Removal Policy**

In all normal circumstances, absent emergency, or situations due to the weather or other factors beyond the control of the Highway Department, the Snow Removal Policy is as follows:

Operation Hours: Snow and ice control operations will be conducted between the hours of 7:00 AM until dusk. Operations may begin earlier and run later during a forecasted weather event. Exceptions for potential emergencies will be made as determined appropriate by the supervisor.

Dispatching: The County will typically not dispatch snow removal equipment until after a snowfall event has ended or until approximately four (4) inches of snow has accumulated. During unusual situations where earlier deployment appears to be a more prudent use of county resources to meet certain, special, public needs, the LaMoure County Road Superintendent has the discretion to dispatch equipment contrary to standard policy or procedure.

Operations in Adverse Conditions: Equipment will not be dispatched when, in the judgement of the supervisor, low visibility or other conditions are such that the risk to operators and other motorists outweighs the benefit of snow/ice operations. The general guideline is that equipment will not be dispatched when the estimated visibility in open areas is less than 500 feet. In the even of fire or medical emergency, vehicles may be dispatched at the direction of the supervisor.

Route Priorities and Levels of Service: Levels of service are described for normal snowfalls. County Primary roads (Asphalt) will have top priority. County secondary roads (Gravel) will have second priority. Townships roads under contract will be plowed after county roads have been opened. Private driveways will be plowed only with prior approval of the operator or Road Superintendent. Private drives must have adequate room to get in, turn around and get out.

Anti-Skid Application: it is important to note, that LaMoure County cannot and does not assure a completely bare pavement. Anit-skid materials maybe used to provide for stopping and starting traction at intersections, hills, curves and other areas of concern. This material is applied to assist the tractive effort of a vehicle and is not necessarily intended to melt ice or snow on the roadway. Anit-skid application equipment will be dispatched only when roadway surface conditions may make travel for the responsible roadway user unusually problematic and will not contribute to snow and ice sticking to the roadway.

Personal Properties: Mail boxes or other personal property damage during snow removal activity will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Only the receptacles that were properly located and installed in accordance with adopted design standards and which were damaged by actual physical contact with county equipment will be considered for repair at the county's expense.

LaMoure County residents are reminded that it is against the law to deposit snow upon or across public roadways. NDCC 24-05-23 and 24-12-02 prohibits obstruction or causing to be obstructed any public highway or right of way. Piles of snow left on or near the roadway can freeze into a solid mass, creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Collisions and damages caused by snow placed in the roadway may result in a substantial liability to the property owner(s).

LaMoure County operators may assist stranded motorists by contacting law enforcement or other emergency personnel. County employees will not attempt to removed or extract vehicles from ditches, snowbanks or any other impediment. Residents are reminded to removed parked vehicles and other property from public roadways and rights-of-way to assist in snow removal.