

Town of Benson, VT
P.O. Box 163
Benson, VT 05731

REQUESTS FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE POLICY

The main responsibility of the Highway Department of the Town of Benson during inclement weather is to keep the roads passable for emergency vehicles. The task of clearing school bus routes, if school is in session, is the next priority, followed by establishing and maintaining safe passage for travel by other vehicles on all Class 2 and Class 3 Town Roads.

Requests from individual citizens for assistance will be addressed as follows:

1. Medical Assistance.
 - a. If a resident of Benson has a chronic medical situation, it is expected that said resident will have in place people and services to ensure that access from the Town Road to the residence is kept passable.
 - b. If a resident of Benson has an emergency situation or a potential emergency situation (imminent birth, for example), the Road Foreman should be notified. If the Road Foreman can assist said citizen without jeopardizing the fulfillment of the primary responsibilities of the Highway Department and without incurring undue overtime wages, the Road Foreman can assist said citizen without express Selectboard approval.

2. Farm Assistance
 - a. It is expected that farmers will take necessary precautions to ensure that the operation of their farm can be conducted safely and effectively during inclement weather without assistance from the Town's Highway Department.
 - b. In the event that unforeseen emergency circumstances arise as a result of a storm or other "acts of God", the Road Foreman can assist said citizen without express Selectboard approval if the assistance can be provided without jeopardizing the fulfillment of the primary responsibilities of the Highway Department and without incurring undue overtime wages.

3. Business/Commercial Assistance
 - a. It is expected that business owners in Benson will take necessary precautions to ensure that the operation of their business can be conducted safely and effectively during inclement weather without assistance from the Town's Highway Department.
 - b. In the event that unforeseen emergency circumstances arise as a result of a storm or other "acts of God", the Road Foreman can assist business owners without express Selectboard approval if the assistance can be provided without jeopardizing the fulfillment of the primary

responsibilities of the Highway Department and without incurring undue overtime wages.

If the rendering of assistance to an individual resident, to a family, to a farm or to a business will result in up to a half hour of overtime wages, the Selectboard reserves the right to bill the concerned party for the services provided at the going rate for overtime Highway Department labor and equipment.

If the rendering of assistance to an individual resident, to a family, to a farm or to a business will result in more than a half an hour of overtime wages, the Road Foreman must have the approval of at least three (3) members of the Selectboard before rendering such assistance. Moreover, the Selectboard reserves the right to bill the concerned party for the services provided at the going rate for overtime Highway Department labor and equipment.

Adopted 12/27/07