

WINTER MAINTENANCE POLICY

The Highway Department is responsible for winter maintenance on all State Trunk Highways and County Trunk Highways in Ashland County. Maintenance on State Trunk Highways is governed by policies developed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Maintenance on County Trunk Highways is governed by the Ashland County Highway Department Winter Road Maintenance Policy.

STATE TRUNK HIGHWAYS

All state highways in Ashland County are classified as Category 5. Under the State Highway Maintenance Policy, this allows the Department to maintain 18 hour coverage. Generally, winter maintenance activities are limited to 4 AM to approximately 8 PM (10 PM maximum). Salt is used to break the bond of snow and ice to the pavement and make roads “passable” during storm events. There is not a “bare pavement” policy. Bare pavement is achieved as soon as weather conditions permit after a storm. A copy of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation’s Winter Maintenance Policies are attached:

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|-----------------|---------------------|
| Guideline 30:05 | Introduction |
| Guideline 30:10 | Mission and History |
| Guideline 30.20 | Classifications |
| Guideline 30.35 | Passable Roadways |
| Guideline 30.36 | Level of Effort |
| Guideline 30.40 | White Shoulders |
| Guideline 30.50 | Snow Emergencies |

COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAYS

Winter maintenance on County Trunk Highways is governed by the “Ashland County Highway Department Winter Road Maintenance Policy” (see attached). Ashland County does not offer 24 hour coverage and does not use salt and does not have a bare road policy on its County Trunk System.

Ashland County uses a mixture of salt (5%) and sand (95%) as an abrasive to improve traction on its County Trunk Highways.