

WINTER SAFETY TAKES EVERYBODY'S HELP!

- **Calhoun County Road Commission**
 - *Plowing Snow and Ice
 - *Spreading Salt/Sand Mix
- **Adult Citizens**
 - *Don't plow snow from your driveway on or across the road—it's against the law
 - *Move vehicles off the road
 - *Don't cause a vision obstruction by piling snow near intersections and driveways
 - *Keep rocks, timbers, fences, etc., away from the road
 - *If you can't see the driver's mirror, he can't see you
- **Children/Young Adults**
 - *Stay away from roads while they are being plowed
 - *Don't throw snowballs at vehicles
 - *Don't play in ditches



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Calhoun County
Road Commission

WINTER MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS



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CALHOUN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION'S EYES & EARS PROGRAM

All Calhoun County Road Commission (CCRC) marked Vehicles are equipped with 2-way radio communication. Our drivers will secure a scared or troubled child, notify law enforcement officials, and stay with the child until assistance arrives.

For the safety of the children and our drivers, children will be released ONLY to law enforcement officials once they have been notified.

Remind your children of the following safety tips:

- Always be aware of your surroundings and be careful
- Stay away from strangers—do not accept rides, gifts or treats
- Be aware of strange people and cars
- Be sure your parents know where you are and go straight home from school
- If you think you are being followed, run to where there are more people and yell for help.
- Never go into a public restroom alone

- If you are home alone, do not open the door for strangers and do not tell a caller that you are home alone

We are also asking for your help in educating the children of our county on the risk presented by snowplows and the dangers of playing on the high piles of snow and ice that are near the roadway during snow removal. Please keep your children away from roadside piles of snow.

Anytime you need help, look for the EYES & EARS sticker on CCRC's trucks and equipment. Our drivers will keep you safe and call the police to help.



EYES & EARS
PROGRAM

2008-09 Winter Maintenance Plan



The Calhoun County Road Commission (CCRC) is responsible for providing winter maintenance on over 5200 lane miles of road. Our crews make every effort to provide a reasonably safe driving surface during winter weather.

Forty-five highly trained and experienced crew members are on the roads 16 out of 24 hours each day, with 39 daytime crews working 6:45 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. and 6 nighttime drivers from 6 p.m. until 2:30 a.m.

Our crews remove accumulated snow and ice from the roadway by plowing and/or applying salt or a salt/sand mix, depending on current and predicted weather conditions.

CCRC's policy for prioritizing snow removal is based on traffic volume, speed limits and road surface types. Preference is given in the following order: expressways and State trunk-lines, primary roads, major local roads,

and residential and subdivision streets.

We are in constant contact with Calhoun County Emergency Dispatch. If you have a life threatening emergency or are in need of fire/rescue services, call 911 immediately. Dispatch will contact us if our services are needed.

MAILBOXES

One problem faced by road commissions each year is damage to mailboxes by the force of heavy, wet snow while plowing. Our drivers need to be able to push the snow off the road within our right-of-way. If your mailbox and post are in good condition, they should be able to endure our snow clearing operations. However, if an existing mailbox or post is damaged due to our equipment, CCRC will replace it with a standard metal mailbox and 4" x 4" wooden post.



Mailboxes in our road right-of-way should be in good condition to withstand the snow pushed off the road.

Please keep your mailbox and post in good condition and located behind the curb or beyond the shoulder where it is less likely to be damaged.

ROAD COMMISSION READY FOR WINTER

On September 17, 2008, CCRC met with road commission representatives from Hillsdale, Ingham, Jackson, Lenawee, Washtenaw, and

Monroe County to discuss winter maintenance operations for 2008-09. At this meeting, it was found that all counties prioritize snow removal on their roads based on traffic volume, speed limit, and type of road surface.

During the 2008-09 winter season, CCRC will follow the same prioritization policy for snow removal as in years past with CCRC crews responding appropriately to current weather conditions. This has not changed, although many counties reported that they do not even begin snow removal operations until there is 3-6" of snow on the ground.



All counties reported using a mixture of salt and sand on primary and local roadways, and most pre-treat the sand with chloride or brine.

Due to the current revenue challenges faced by road commissions throughout Michigan, all representatives agreed that a managed approach to material usage is critical. This year, CCRC will be managing our material by limiting salt/sand usage on local roads to hills, curves, and intersections. Therefore, we are urging the traveling public to be aware of changing weather conditions, allow more time to travel, and SLOW DOWN.

THE MOTORING PUBLIC

The winter season brings the challenge of driving in adverse conditions to all of us. Ensuring your safe passage as you travel the roads in Calhoun County is our foremost concern.

The most important thing to remember about winter driving is to drive cautiously, take it slow, and give our winter maintenance crews plenty of room on the roads, so that they can accomplish their work promptly and efficiently.

Help us reduce the risk of someone becoming the victim of a winter-related road accident by driving safely, remaining alert, and providing plenty of time and room to stop for other motorists. Better yet, stay off the roads whenever possible during a heavy snow or ice storm.

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