

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

1. Give our plow trucks plenty of room: When you see an oncoming plow truck, please slow down and pull over toward the right in order to give us room to maneuver – and don't try to share narrow bridges with us. A 55,000-pound truck doesn't stop on a dime. And, we have an overall 14-foot plowing width (steel on the road) and most of our roads are less than 20 feet wide.

§ 1050a. Authorized highway maintenance vehicles

(a) As used in this section, "authorized vehicle" means a vehicle authorized by the Agency of Transportation (in the case of State highways) or the municipality (in the case of town highways) to perform maintenance on a highway.

(b) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right of way to any authorized vehicle obviously and actually engaged in work upon a highway when the vehicle displays flashing lights meeting the requirements of subsection 1252(b) of this title. (Added 2007, No. 164 (Adj. Sess.), § 37.)

2. Don't tailgate: If you can't see the side mirrors on our truck, we can't see you.
3. Plan ahead and leave early: In the wintertime—both daytime and in the dark—you need to leave yourself extra travel time in order to get to your destination safely.
4. Scrape your windows: It takes just a few extra minutes to thoroughly scrape all your car windows but it can take months and hundreds of dollars to recover from an accident caused by driving with a frosted, iced, or snow-covered window that limits what you can see.
5. Slow speeds & salt reduction: Always gage your speed based on road conditions – which in the winter often means having to go slower than the posted speed limit. Our town doesn't have a 'clear roads' policy. For environmental and economic reasons, some areas will have less salt than others.
6. Shoveling, Snow blowing & plowing: Snow that's pushed or tossed on to the traveled way or shoulder of roads may freeze and become a serious hazard to motorists. Besides that, it's against the law (23 V.S.A. § 1126a) with a \$76.00 fine per occurrence.

§ 1126a. Depositing snow onto or across certain highways prohibited

(a) No person, other than an employee in the performance of his or her official duties or other person authorized by the Agency of Transportation (in the case of State highways) or Selectboard (in the case of town highways), shall plow or otherwise deposit snow onto the traveled way, shoulder, or sidewalk of a State highway or a class 1, 2, or 3 town highway.

(b) Nothing in this section should be construed to be in derogation of any municipal ordinance regulating the deposit of snow within the limits of town highways. (Added 1997, No. 150 (Adj. Sess.), § 17.)

7. Please help keep your culverts clear: We have well over 760 culverts and 15 bridges in Hinesburg. Water that can't make it through a culvert because of debris blockage is likely to overflow, ice up, damage driveways, and make roads hazardous. Please do not push snow over the ends of driveway culverts

