

Snow and Ice Control FAQ



What is VTrans' Policy for winter maintenance, and where did it come from?

Vermont has a **“safe-roads-at-safe-speeds”** policy for winter storms. Since its adoption by the General Assembly in the early 1980's, that policy has directed us to **keep highways plowed, salted, and sanded to keep them open to traffic, and to maintain them to a degree that allows motorists to use them at reasonable speeds**. This policy requires that drivers partner with us, use good judgment, and understand that during a storm Vermont's roads will be covered with some snow. **Roads will not become bare until after the storm is over.** VTrans crews are among the nation's best at snow and ice control, but all drivers need to slow down and drive according to the conditions.

After the storm, highways are returned to bare pavement on a “corridor priority” schedule based on the highway's “level of service”. Interstates, for example, take priority over lightly traveled rural highways.

To better explain our winter maintenance practices, including what motorists can expect from VTrans during a winter storm, we've developed a [Snow and Ice Control \(SIC\) Plan](#).