


<p>TOWN OF SANDGATE Sandgate, VT 05250</p> 	<p>TITLE:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Summer Maintenance Operations</p>	<p>Document Type: Policy</p> <p>Document Number/ Revision: 109.01</p> <p>Original Issue: Unknown</p> <p>Reissue: 10/03/2011</p>
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Section I. Purpose: Maintain and regularly improve town roads in order to promote the safety and convenience of the traveling public. Every effort is made to carry out highway operations in conformance with state regulations and Better Backroads Best Practices checklist (see below).

Section 11. Policies:

- A. Graveled roads are graded and graveled as soon in the spring as weather permits. Wherever possible, the roads are graded to a slope of % of an inch to 1 inch per linear foot from the center crown to the ditch for proper water runoff. Gravel is applied to a depth that allows this grade to be achieved. Grading and graveling is also done each fall.
- B. Chloride or other approved substances may be applied during the spring and summer months. The purpose is to retain the gravel fines, which are affected by dry, hot and windy weather and which tend to cause potholes and washboards.
- C. Ditch cleaning and culvert replacement take place in the summer months. This is done in conformance with hydraulic and water quality standards.
- D. Shoulder cleaning is done on both paved and unpaved roads to insure proper water runoff.
- E. Pruning or cutting of trees, shrubs or brush is undertaken as needed in order to expose the road to the sun and to keep sightlines open for the safety of the traveling public.
- F. Stone or stone or fabric lined ditches are installed when the slopes warrant. Stone is also installed at the inlets and outlets of culverts.
- G. Potholes in the blacktop are patched as soon as possible.
- H. Sections of town roads are paved or repaved by approval of voters at town meetings.

Section III. Better Backroads Best Practices Checklist:

- Crown roads to allow water to move quickly from the surface into the ditches.
- Stabilize all exposed soil with seed and mulch or erosion control blankets as soon as possible.
- Line ditches with slopes less than 5% with vegetation (seed and mulch).
- Direct runoff into vegetated areas, if possible.
- Avoid concentration runoff and keep runoff velocities as low as possible.
- Install culverts with a minimum diameter of 18”.
- Install stone aprons at culvert outlets where erosion is occurring.
- Install headers and wingwalls on culverts where erosion is occurring.
- Schedule and perform regular inspection and maintenance on culverts and ditches.

- Stabilize eroding banks with vegetation or stone.
- Disturb in a day only an area that can be stabilized that same day.
- After September 15th, stabilize soils by hydroseeding or covering with erosion control blankets, not seed and mulch.

Reference: Vermont Better Backroads Pocket Guide, updated 2008

Revision History:

Doc. Number	Date	Actions
109.00	Unknown	In Policy Files
109.01	10/03/2011	Reformatted with no change in content. Approved by Selectboard.