

Custer County Highway Department

Snow Removal & Sanding Policy

11-16-2020

It is the policy of Custer County to initiate snow removal operations to maintain traffic as long as visibility is above minimum and weather conditions are such that plowing can be done safely and be effective for at least five hours.

The County Highway Superintendent, or his assignee, has the responsibility for initiating all snow removal actions using his best judgement and considering all prevailing weather conditions, amount of snow fall, type of snow fall and what areas are affected most. He also will commence operations at emergencies or extreme conditions.

The general practice will be as follows: With snowfall of four inches or more, all gravel roads as well as hard surfaced roads will be plowed during normal working hours. At this time, plowing may commence before and after normal working hours as well as weekends and holidays. The snow removal operations will be initiated out of the Custer County Highway Shop and also from the three satellite sheds located in Hermosa, Buffalo Gap and Elk Mountain.

The sequence and priority of which roads are plowed will be left to the discretion of the highway superintendent or his assignee but will most always be school bus routes and mail routes having the highest priority. There will be no snow removal operations conducted on non-county system roads unless there is a dire emergency; all other methods have been exhausted, and the Custer County Commission has authorized such activity.

The Custer County Highway Department has been directed sand areas designated by the Custer County Commission, such as bridges, steep hills, curves and intersections on all of the hard surfaced roads on the County Highway System. Also areas designated as high traffic volume areas and areas that have numerous school bus stops or areas designated by the Highway Superintendent as so needed by the Highway Department.

The Highway Department shall have the authority to sand in areas that have been classified as danger areas by the Sheriff's Department, such as accidents or for emergency vehicles.

The Highway Superintendent or his assignee has the authority to sand before and after normal working hours due to adverse weather conditions.

Jess Doyle, Superintendent
Custer County Highway Department