

## **SNOW & ICE CONTROL**

Reno County Public Works would like to present an overview of the Snow and Ice Control Plan to the Reno County citizens. This information outlines the policies and procedures currently in place to help minimize hazardous road conditions on Reno County asphalt roads during and after winter storms. The goal is to provide the safest winter driving conditions possible and being mindful of the budget and the proper use of taxpayer's money.

Public Works has established a Snow & Ice Plan that consists of two 10 hour shifts that overlap each other one hour. The overlap is for fueling and driver information concerning troublesome areas that need immediate attention. The two shifts are 3:00am to 1:00pm and 12:00 noon to 10:00pm. The snow routes consist of 1200 lane miles of black top roads and the bridges located on these black top roads. The Snow and Ice Plan divides the County into four quadrants with assigned staff and trucks for each quadrant.

Public Works has recently constructed salt & sand satellite stations within each of the four quadrants. This eliminates deadheading back to Public Works headquarters for needed treatment material and then deadheading back throughout the County, eliminating wasted time and fuel.

The Snow & Ice Plan also consist of pre-treating the roads with salt brine. This treatment is conducted prior to the storm. The pre-treatment function is not to melt ice or snow off the road but to have enough melting effect to create a barrier between the road surface and the ice or snow. This barrier helps prevent frozen material from not having as strong of bond to the road surface. This in return makes removing the snow and ice easier after melting has started.

The Snow & Ice Plan also consists of pre-treating not only with brine but also with salt and sand. It is not feasible to pre-treat the entire County; therefore, priority treatment areas have been created as part of the plan. At this time, the priority areas are 24 locations consisting of high-traffic volume County roads and bridges located within the north east quadrant of the County.

I hope this gives the citizens of Reno County an understanding of how we try to handle the challenge of keeping our roads and bridges as safe as possible during snow & ice events. We have made many changes and will continue to make changes to become more efficient in order to make the roads as safe as possible and to spend the taxpayer's money wisely.

Don Brittain, Director

Reno County Public Works