

# VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

## NEWS RELEASE

BETTER HIGHWAYS: SAVE LIVES, SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

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### VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION WINTER OPERATIONS AND STORM PROCEDURES

#### THE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION WANTS YOU TO KNOW . . .

Michigan's first snowflakes have already fallen, and before the state is feet-deep in snow the Van Buren County Road Commission is sharing how it responds to winter storms, and how its roads are maintained.

A Michigan snowstorm can last 24 hours or more, which means a lot of work may be required following a winter storm to completely open roads and widen all intersections. And then there's the wind and drifting that can make driving conditions difficult following even a small event. That's why here in Van Buren County, each winter snow event is treated as an individual occurrence due to the unique characteristics of each event (depth of snow, type of snow/slush/ice, temperature fluctuations, etc.).

Routine snow removal operations will begin on the affected areas of the County Primary Road network as a first priority. These roads include Red Arrow Highway, Blue Star Highway, and all roads with the "County Road (CR)" designation.

The affected areas of the Local Roads system (streets and avenues), and the affected roadways within subdivisions are given secondary priority.

Normal scheduled operations of the Van Buren County Road Commission occur within eight (8) hour days, Monday through Friday. In addition, weekend operations or overtime operations are performed as follows:

- A. In the event of a snowfall in excess of four (4") inches, the most critical locations on selected County Primary Roads will be covered, as conditions permit.
- B. Unusual ice and/or wind conditions causing hazardous driving, or impassable conditions on the affected areas of the road system, as conditions permit.
- C. In the event of a snowfall in excess of eight (8") inches, authorization shall be extended to cover the Local Road system of the affected area(s), as conditions permit.

In all cases, minimum crew sizes will be utilized to cover the affected areas.

As always, every effort within the physical and financial resources of the Road Commission shall be made to keep the roads in a safe and reasonable condition for public travel.

If you have questions on winter maintenance, please contact the Van Buren County Road Commission at (269) 674-8011, Extension 0, or via email at [vbrc@vbrc.org](mailto:vbrc@vbrc.org).

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