



**Town of Cable
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April Monthly Road & Property Report

With the weight limits being on, we try to keep our heavy equipment off the roads just as we expect everybody else to do while we wait for the frost to leave. This period does bring some of our work to grinding halt. We use this time of year to take care of yearly training, a lot of equipment maintenance, project/maintenance planning for roads as well as buildings/grounds and applying for County Road Aids.

Training is a little more involved lately due to getting new employees up to speed. We have yearly MSHA (mine safety training), which is required for entry into commercial gravel pits. MSHA also requires us to have documented equipment training, so a town training plan was developed last year for operating our equipment. OSHA requires us to have chainsaw safety training and basic first aid training. Other training includes highway work zone safety, flagger safety, etc.

During the spring we take off the snow removal equipment from the grader and tandem axle plow truck to get them ready for summer road maintenance. It takes about 4 hours to remove the graders equipment, but it takes a full day to convert the plow truck for gravel hauling. We go through our mowing equipment and sweeping equipment to do any servicing and repairs. As you know, we replaced our aging brush mower this year as well as our wheel loader. The brush mower was 20 years old and was requiring expensive repairs annually to keep it going. Our current wheel loader is 14 years old and getting high in hours. I wanted to replace it before it started requiring more expensive repairs and becoming undependable. The loader is our #1 piece of equipment that is used year-round for plowing and road maintenance.

We are installing time locks in the depot at the park. The building will be open everyday during the day and locked at night. This will make the bathrooms available to park users and campers. We are going to upgrade the lighting in the depot entry and bathrooms and put the lights on motion activated switches. This should prevent lights being left on all night. We have identified some issues at the Community Center with gutters and other maintenance needs as well as issues with the skating rink, boat landings and cemetery.

We have done some patching, we will do more as the weather warms up. Grading and sweeping operations will start as soon as things dry out again.

Respectfully,
Jason Swanson, Road & Property Foreman