



SUMMER ROAD MAINTENANCE

Matanuska-Susitna Borough FACT SHEET

Purpose



The Borough's main priority during the summer is to ensure that the roads that are certified for maintenance are safe for use. Through sixteen different RSA maintenance contracts, the Borough maintains over 1,000 miles of paved and gravel roads. The general priorities for summer maintenance will be school bus routes first, primary collector roads second, and secondary roads and subdivision roads third. As a taxpayer, you should know what you can expect from the contractor, and this document will highlight that for you.

As you are driving around the Borough, if there are areas that seem to be out of compliance with the information provided, you are encouraged to call the Borough's Hotline, 745-9826 and report it.

What Can You Expect from the Contractor?

For summer maintenance, the contractor will:

- Perform initial spring grading by May 30th when gravel surfaces of the roadways reach optimum moisture content. If the base and sub-base are too soft, the contractor will not grade the road because long-term damage can occur.
- Maintain road surfaces so that a properly equipped and maintained vehicle can drive at a reasonable speed without sustaining damage to the vehicles or be in jeopardy of losing control.
 - o Potholes over 2 inches in depth and one (1) foot in diameter exceeding more than 20 in any 100 feet of road shall be corrected within 24 hours. Where feasible, potholes shall be cut out, not filled.
 - o Wash boarding shall not exceed 50 feet in road surface length.
- Grade roads throughout the summer to include pulling ditches, shaping shoulders, maintaining crown (min of 3%, max of 5%).
 - o Provide water if required to complete summer grading.

- o Leave no berms across driveways or intersections or rock or debris over 2 inches on the traveled surface.
- Sweep all paved surfaces, including intersections and shoulders on an as needed basis.

For vegetation control the contractor will:

- Mechanically cut vegetation along all rights-of-ways every two years. The Borough has specific requirements pertaining to this.
 - o Cut both sides of a street during the same cycle.

For drainage, the contractor will:

- Maintain good drainage from roads at all times. Ensure adequate drainage exists to keep water from standing on the road, crossing over the road, and saturating the road prism.
- Pull ditches a minimum of once each spring and then on an as needed basis to maintain drainage.
- Locate and inspect all culverts. Clean all culverts and correct all other conditions that would impede free drainage. Replace or repair all culverts with grader or plow damage.

Other Pertinent Information:

- During the summer, the Public Work's O&M Division also replaces damaged street signs, crack seals pavements, and completes many capital projects to ensure the Borough's roads are safe and well maintained.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the Operations and Maintenance Division of the Public Works Department at 745-9804.