

WAITSFIELD ROAD DEPARTMENT 2015 Report

Starting the year fairly frosty, with plenty of snow and cold, our road crew was in for some busy times. Snow and more snow and cold, and by the time we got done with February, the average temperature was two below zero. As winter can do, it hung in there through April, but much dryer conditions prevailed. All in all, the winter took its toll on everything - salt and sand piles, overtime, fuel for the trucks, and the fire wood pile. Hats off to our crew, and for that matter, all municipal crews, for a job well done! Keeping our highways and byways travelable is a very difficult task.

After a very slow thaw, winter finally gave way to spring, and yes, the flowers bloomed. But, the April showers never came, and nor did they in May. It was so dry, that we began our summer work. Culvert replacements, ditching, and grading were in full swing. Then June came, making it the third wettest in history. It also brought the closing of the covered bridge. We saw traffic increase in town by many times. The challenge was keeping certain roads graded and chlorided. However, our guys kept up with the program, and started to work their vacation time in - a challenge for a three person crew.

Summer continued on, and we saw the paving of Tremblay Road, North Road, and a shim on Joslin Hill. The much needed paving work has been appreciated by all. Before the paving project started, we replaced two culverts on Tremblay Road. The usual road side mowing took place and other road and ditch maintenance continued. The road side mower the Town bought a few years back has worked out great. It gives us the opportunity to mow three passes, and, a fall mowing that really helps with intersections where the tall grass can lead to sight issues. This year we received a new tandem dump truck that we purchased, and it was put quickly into service, hauling ditch rock from Berlin and hauling gravel from our pit.

As the fall colors began, to the delight of us all, the dry warm weather continued. So, the crew continued doing more summer-type work. They cut, split and stacked five cords of wood for heating the shed, replaced a couple more culverts, dug more ditches, and lined them with stone.

So, here we are at the end of the year, and winter has not arrived yet. Surely it will, but for now, our crew can be spotted in their sun glasses,

enjoying the rays. I would like to thank our great crew, led by Rodney Jones, and, his two maintainers, Josh Rogers and Ken Bagley - always there, always smiling.

Charlie Goodman
Road Commissioner



Paving Bridge Street

Photo: V. Capels