

# **Spruce Valley Ranch Supplemental Snow Plowing Operational Guidelines 2014**

## **1. Basic Town of Blue River Services**

The Board will obtain a plower who will provide “on call” services to supplement, not replace the basic services provided by the Town of Blue River. Town of Blue River services include:

- a. Plows when fresh snowfall at Town Center exceeds 4” in a 24-hour period. Only one plow per day is required by Town contract but the Town may call out a second plow on heavy snow days or when snow resumes later in a day. Town contract requires plowing to “full width”, which is 20 ft. (minimum) in SVR.
- b. Periodic pushbacks beyond shoulder to maintain “full width” roadway.
- c. Sanding on hills and at intersections. Residents may request additional sanding at specific locations.
- d. Scraping when snow pack is over 6” thick.

Note: Town contract does not provide for reopening private driveways after regular plows or major pushbacks (however the town plower sometimes does this on his own).

## **2. SVR Supplemental Services**

The Spruce Valley Ranch supplemental plower will provide any one of the following services, but only when called by the designated SVR Foundation representative (See Leadership below):

- a. Plows when fresh snow and no Town plow is expected. Supplemental plows will be a minimum of 20 ft. wide, consistent with Town plows.
- b. A second plow (usually in the afternoon) when a second plow in 24 hours from the Town is not provided.
- c. Plows early and late in the season when no service from the Town is provided (before Nov 1 and after May 1).
- d. Extra push backs or clearing of snow at intersections when SVR requests to the Town have not provided adequate service. Pushbacks should extend beyond the asphalt edge at least 5 ft. or more depending on what the shoulders, ditches, and roadside structures will allow.
- e. Reopening of private driveways following major push backs by the Town, and the Town confirms they will not reopen drives. The SVR supplemental plowing will not be used to reopen private drives after every regular Town plow or every supplemental plow.
- f. Special plows during periods of melt (usually between noon and 5pm) to prevent build up of icy ruts.
- g. Sanding where the Town has declined to sand.

## **3. SVR Snow Plowing Leadership**

To monitor Town service and trigger supplemental service when needed, the Board will each year name at least one Board member to:

- a. Provide leadership and speak for the Board on matters of street plowing with the Town, lot owners, and the supplemental plower.
- b. Appoint a “chain of command” so there is always one person in residence in SVR with the responsibility and authority to trigger the on call supplemental services when needed. The Board member may enlist one or more residents to form a core group who will assure at least one of them is in residence.

#### **4. Procedure for Determining Need for Supplemental Services by SVR Leader**

- a. The SVR person in charge will call John Schmidt, Town of Blue River Code Enforcement, (cell 970-485-5974), to determine if a service is going to be provided by the Town before calling out SVR supplemental services. Typical situations include:
  - i. Marginal snows near the 4” cut off
  - ii. Push backs when roadways have narrowed under 18 ft.
  - iii. Second plows in a 24 hour period
  - iv. Extra sanding at dangerous locations
- b. If John Schmidt cannot be reached in a reasonable time period or he confirms no Town services will be provided, the SVR person in charge should call for the supplemental service.
- c. There will likely be a 1 to 2 hour minimum response time lag from when we call our supplemental plower and when they get here.
- d. The SVR person in charge may use their sole judgment in calling for supplemental services and need not consult with the Board, nor take action because of phone requests from individual residents.
- e. The SVR person in charge should consult with John Schmidt to be advised when major push backs are to occur and determine if the Town will be reopening private drives. The SVR person in charge should assure Town or our supplemental plower reopens driveways after major push backs (see 2e above).
- f. Should the Town services fall short of those outlined in #1 above, the Board member in charge should contact John Schmidt to arrange for him to view the problem first hand and request he remedy it with the Town plower. SVR should not contact the Town plower directly. Incidents of service shortfall, or problems with either the Town plower or the SVR supplemental plower should be documented for later reference and reported to the Board with any recommended action.
- g. The Board member in charge should take immediate action when there is evidence of private driveway plowers leaving snow in SVR roadways by:
  - i. First, contact the lot owner and ask them to correct the problem with their plower.
  - ii. Second, if no or a negative response is received from the owner, and if the problem persists, have the snow removed by the supplemental plower at the driveway owner’s expense (see owner’s responsibility below).

#### **5. Responsibility of Owners**

- a. For cost and service efficiencies, the Foundation will encourage owners to place their private driveway contract with the Ranch’s chosen supplemental plower contractor. However, owners are not obligated to use that plower and all contractual arrangements

- on private drives are strictly between the owners and their selected contractor. Accordingly, on private driveway plowing issues, owners should deal directly with their plowing contractor, even if that plower is the same as the Ranch's supplemental plower.
- b. As noted above, the Foundation will see to reopening private drives after major push backs, since this material is usually very heavy/icy and difficult to handle without adequate plowing equipment. However, neither the Town of Blue River nor the Foundation will reopen drives after routine plows. Reopening drives after a routine plow is the owner's responsibility.
  - c. Owners may not allow their plowers to leave snow from driveway plowing in SVR roadways. This is prohibited by Town of Blue River ordinance and Ranch rules. Experience has proven this practice inevitably results in narrowing the roadways making them less safe. The owners will be asked to correct any situations where this occurs. If the owners/owners' plowers fail to correct it, the Foundation will need to act and the owners will be billed for the corrective plowing. If snow storage is a consistent problem for an owner, they should consider expanding their own lot storage capacity.
  - d. Owners should direct their questions and comments on street snowplowing service to the Board designated leader listed above. Owners should not contact the Town's plower or the Ranch supplemental plower directly. However, owners who believe they have snow plow damage attributable to the Town of Blue River's plowing contractor should contact the Town directly through John Schmidt (970-485-5974).