

NOTICE : Winter Roads 2017/2018

THIS SNOW SEASON, THE TOWN OF ISLE AU HAUT WILL BE PLOWING PUBLIC ROADWAYS, THE TOWN LANDING/PARKING LOT, IAH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLHOUSE and REVERE MEMORIAL HALL, FIREHOUSE as well as a marked HELIPAD at the Kennedy's Ball Field next to Fire Department.

If there are any questions, please call me at 207-335-5571, or email me at selectboard1@isleauhautmaine.us

If you need your driveway plowed, Luther Smith is a private contractor who is available to do that service. He can be reached at 207-335-2010, or luther.smith68@yahoo.com

The reason we have stopped plowing private driveways is "the unconstitutional use of public money for private use." However, in the event of an emergency situation, the Town will respond promptly.

The Maine Municipal Association had posted a Q & A on the maine.gov website. It reads as follows:

Question: Does your town plow private roads? If you do not, what do you tell individuals who want you to plow because "they pay a lot of taxes! If you do, how do you justify the increased costs/liability potential when this practice is illegal?

Answer: "Once again, because it is unlawful to spend public funds for private purposes (the "Public Purpose Doctrine"), it is unlawful for a municipality to plow private roads, including camp roads and logging roads. Municipalities are required to plow and remove ice from town ways. A municipality may, if so directed by the town meeting or town or city council, plow snow and ice from public easements. However, it is unlawful to use public money to plow private roads. Moreover, although there are no court decisions in Maine on this issue, a plow operator who plows private roads may be outside the scope of employment and therefore liable without limitation, defense or insurance."