



**RICHLAND COUNTY**  
**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**  
OLNEY, ILLINOIS

**DANNY J. COLWELL, PE**  
County Engineer/Floodplain Administrator

**SHELBY J. WEIDNER**  
Office Manager

### Richland County Snow Removal Procedures

Richland County works to remove snow from roads to allow for safe travel at reduced speeds that are reasonable for slick conditions. Richland County does not have any part-time winter truck drivers, "snowbirds". We typically respond to snowstorms at the crack of dawn and get off the roads by dark. It is not safe for plow truck drivers or the public to operate snow trucks after dark on widening, narrow county roads. Richland County spreads sand at intersections, hills, and intersections to provide traction for motorists.

The State of Illinois has a dry road policy. They hire part-time employees in the winter. These part-time employees allow the State to operate around the clock. The State also has the resources to spread salt on the roads. Sodium Chloride, the most common road salt, works well down to 20° F. Calcium Chloride is less common, but will melt ice below 0° F. Sodium Chloride costs more than \$100.00 per ton and is extremely detrimental to any equipment it encounters. Sand costs \$6.00 per ton and does not cause rust.

The Township Road Districts vary dramatically in the number of hired hands they have and type of equipment they have to deal with snow.

I recommend that you avoid unnecessary travel during any snowstorm. If you have special medical needs like kidney dialysis or chemotherapy, contact your highway official for the road you live on before the storm. We will adjust our efforts to make certain you can get to your urgent medical appointments.

Thank you,



Danny J. Colwell, P.E.  
Richland County Engineer