

# Washington County – Gravel Road Issues 2008

## Winter Facts

- 61" of snowfall since Thanksgiving (3<sup>rd</sup> most in recorded history)
- Precipitation on 53 of 112 days
- Plow operators have worked 50+ hours per week all winter
- Average winter budget = \$300,000. This winter = \$500,000.
- 2 Federal disaster declarations in 2007 (Ice Storms)

## Plan of Action

1. Provide public information: [www.washingtonroads.org](http://www.washingtonroads.org), Media, Schools
  2. Blade and haul rock to emergency locations (March)
  3. Voluntary Embargo of Roads (March)
  4. Hope for warm, dry weather
  5. Contract haul 50,000 ton of rock after spring thaw.
  6. Spot haul 15,000 ton to additional locations as conditions warrant.
  7. Re-evaluate and report to public and Board periodically until conditions improve.
- Washington County hauls more gravel now than ever before. It hauled 30% more rock during the past 4 years than in the previous 10 years.
  - In 2008, Secondary Roads will receive \$1,533,000 in property taxes. During the same year, it will purchase 130,000 tons of gravel at a cost of \$1,100,000 (not including labor, equipment or fuel to haul and blade the gravel).

