

April was a busy month as winter ended early, so we were able to get a jump start on some springtime projects. We spent a week cleaning up the cemeteries and town parks. Multiple tree limbs had come down over the winter so those were cut up and we removed several bags of trash from around the basketball and tennis courts.

We then began working on culverts, culverts, and more culverts. We replaced all five of the driveway culverts at the Common Cemetery and began working on replacing several other private driveway culverts on Sidelinger, Sennebec, and Marrs Hill. These were all steel culverts that were rotted out on the bottom and were collapsing which restricts the flow of the water. We replaced them with Kanaflex steel reinforced polyethylene pipe culverts. These culverts won't rust or rot and because they are lined with steel, they are stronger than regular pvc culverts. This means that a properly replaced culvert shouldn't have to be replaced for at least 20 years.

We also replaced cross culverts on Thurston and Brown's Lane in preparation for those to be paved later this summer. Culvert replacement and ditching is a never-ending project, and we have many more lined up that need to be replaced. Good drainage is the key to road longevity so we will get as much ditching done this summer as possible.

Chris Packard began grading (power raking) the dirt roads as we customarily have them done every spring and fall. If all goes well, he should be able to get all of them completed within a couple of weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Elwell - Public Works Director