



TOWN OF UNION *Maine*

The month of April is a transition month between winter plowing and summer mowing, two jobs that take up a large chunk of our time, so it's a good month to get a jump start on other projects such as water drainage.

We were able to get some ditching done on Marrs Hill, Barrett Hill, Beote, North Union, and Clarry Hill Ln. In addition to the ditching, we changed out five driveway culverts on Clarry Hill Ln, Beote, and Rabbit Farm Rd. We also began our spring grading of gravel roads on Beote, Barrett Hill, and Bump Hill. April showers might be good for May flowers but it's not good weather for grading gravel roads. If mother nature cooperates, we hope to complete the rest of the grading in the first couple weeks of May.

Speaking of gravel roads, our grader operator, Tom Fontaine, and I attended a workshop on gravel road maintenance. The class was held in Winslow and put on by the Maine DOT Local Roads Center. We gained some valuable knowledge regarding the types of gravel and best grading practices. The whole crew also attended the annual American Public Works spring conference which was held this year at the Augusta Civic Center. This was the first time that either of these events had been held since before covid, so they were well attended.

And finally, this month I would like to publicly thank the group of residents who volunteered to clean up bottles and cans, trash, and other unwanted items along the side of North Union Rd. This effort involved around a dozen or so residents of all ages who live on or near North Union Rd. Public Works was able to provide the group with trash bags and then picked up the full bags and took them to the transfer station. April is "Earth month" and we were happy to play a role in helping clean up our town.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Elwell - Public Works Director