



TOWN OF UNION *Maine*

The old saying is “April showers bring May flowers” but this April started out with a lot of white instead of wet. We were optimistic that we were done with winter as the mild March weather had us thinking about spring until we got hit with a classic nor’easter. The storm on April 4th dumped around 12 to 14” of wet, heavy snow coupled with strong winds made visibility nearly zero at times during the night. But as I’ve said before, we have an awesome crew who is well trained and because of that we made it through one of the tougher types of storms with zero issues. In total the crew was out for more than 24 hours from the time the storm started until the final road was cleaned up. I’d like to say a special thank you to Greg and Joyce Grotton who provided the crew with a delicious hot meal during the storm. It came complete with dessert, and it was delicious. We very much appreciate the support that the townspeople show us.

There is also another saying that goes “if you don’t like the weather in Maine just wait a minute”, and sure enough four days after the storm, the temperature was 60 degrees and most of the snow had melted away.

Other projects that we completed this month were the re-stripping of the parking lines at Ayer Park and in the public parking lot on the Common, and we spent a day cleaning up tree limbs and brush that had fallen in the cemeteries over the winter.

We also began the spring grading of gravel roads. If the weather cooperates, all the gravel roads will be graded by the middle of May, and as always, we try to add a few truckloads of additional gravel to all the roads where needed.

And finally, April 25th was my last day on the job. In March I accepted a public works superintendent job in the state of Georgia and will begin my first day on May 6th. It has been an honor working in and serving the citizens of my hometown for the last three and a half years and I’m very proud of the professionalism and dedication of the public works department employees. Tom Fontaine has been selected to take my place. Tom has worked for the town since March of 2021, and I have no doubt that he will continue to lead the department with the same level of service, courtesy, and professionalism that I did. I wish him the best of luck.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Elwell - Public Works Director



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Freshly painted parking lines at Ayer Park