



TOWN OF UNION *Maine*

September was another productive and busy month for public works. We changed one driveway and one cross culvert on Butler Rd and began ditching both sides of the two-mile dirt section. We spent four days at Lakeview cemetery and one day at Common cemetery cutting back brush from the wood line that was beginning to crowd and hang onto gravestones. We have also consistently mowing all the town parks and cemeteries this month and will probably have to do everything at least one more time next month.

I spent three days attending a Supervisory Leadership in Public Works class that was held at the DOT training center in Fairfield. This is part one of the two-part training that is coordinated by the Maine Local Road Center. Some of the topics covered were road surface management, snow and ice control, media/public relations, and of course insurance and liability. I will be attending part two next month.

On the 28th all crew members participated in a day long chainsaw safety class which we hosted at the town office. There were five other participants from area towns represented as well. As part of that class, we cut down one of the spruce trees that was out behind the TCC so that the instructor could demonstrate different cutting techniques. There are a few other small trees that have grown too close to the building, and we will be removing those as well.

And finally, the new JCB loader arrived on the 29th. This 125 hp, 20,000-pound machine replaces the 18-year-old John Deere backhoe that had served the town well for almost 10,000 hours. Each crew member received one on one training with the JCB representative on how to operate the machine. With proper care and maintenance, I'm confident that this loader will last the town for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Elwell - Public Works Director



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New JCB loader