


STRATFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT 	Type of Directive: Policy and Procedure	Updated: 10/13/2021
	Title: Hazards on Highway	No. 4.2
	Issuing Authority: Chief Joseph McNeil	Issued: 10-10-2018
	Reference: AS - 1.7.18	

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for handling hazards to vehicle or pedestrian traffic and the removal of debris on the highway.

POLICY:

It shall be the policy of the Stratford Police Department to The Stratford Police Department will respond to any report of hazardous road conditions and will take such action as necessary to protect the public, including notifying the appropriate agency to remedy the situation.

PROCEDURE:

A patrol officer shall be assigned to investigate any report of a hazardous road condition. Hazardous road conditions may include, but are not limited to **(1.7.18)**

- Debris in the roadway, trash, etc...
- Spilled consumer goods Downed trees or tree limbs Spilled oil in the roadway Flooded roadways.
- Missing manhole covers.
- Potholes or road cave-ins.
- Icy or snow-covered roadways.

If the debris or road conditions create a danger to vehicles or pedestrians, it may be necessary for an officer to stand by at the scene or to close a section of highway until the situation can be corrected. If a road needs to be closed, the following procedures may be used:

- Short term - a police cruiser with emergency lights, traffic cones and/or flares may be used.
- Extended periods - barricades can be setup by the police department, public works department, or the state highway department.
- Police Dispatcher - make a computer entry noting time, persons notified and their response.

- Patrol officer assigned - complete an incident report noting the location of barricades, traffic cones, etc. in order to facilitate their collection at a later time.

Hazardous Materials

The Town Fire Department has the primary responsibility for providing the equipment and procedures for the handling and containment of hazardous materials. Police Officers responding to incidents or accidents involving hazardous materials shall:

- Exercise extreme caution in their approach to the area.
- Assess the situation and attempt to determine the type and quantity of material involved.
- Notify the fire department through dispatch.
- Isolate the area and prevent all non-essential access.

Notification

The shift supervisor upon notification of the situation, shall determine which of the following should be notified and arrange for notification

- Chief of Police
- Deputy Chief of Police Emergency Medical Service Fire Department
- Public Works Department
- Department of Environmental Protection
- Local radio stations or media information