

Town of Falmouth
Parks and Public Works Department

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Date: February 14, 2011

To: Falmouth Town Council
Nathan Poore, Town Manager

From: Jay Reynolds, Parks and Public Works Director



Re: Road Postings for 2011

Introduction:

This memo is in regards to the seasonal posting of roads in Falmouth. The Falmouth Code of Ordinances, under Section 17 – Article IV, states the following: “the town council may, either permanently or seasonally, impose such restrictions on the gross registered weight of vehicles traveling over designated town way and bridges as, in their judgment, may be necessary to protect the traveling public and to prevent excessive damage to town ways and bridges” (§17-101).

As part of this submittal, Town staff is requesting that the Town Council consider the following roads for seasonal posting this winter/spring:

Mast Road
Mountain Road,
Woodville Road (Woods to Winn),
Lunt Road (Falmouth to Middle),
Merrill Road,
Johnson Road (Route 1 to Foreside)
Ledgewood Drive

Background:

Section 17, Article IV of the Town’s Code of Ordinances, is attached. It was enacted in 2005. The Town’s code is supplemental to the State of Maine’s Statute (MRSA Title 29-A, §2395), which also covers state and local authority to regulate motor vehicle weights.

Supporting information:

Heavy loads can cause significant damage to road infrastructure. This is prevalent during significant thawing periods, which are typically during warmer days when the road surface softens, and then refreezes at night.

Posting roads minimizes the amount of damage to the infrastructure. By minimizing the damage, this protects the Town’s capital investments by maintaining the normal depreciation cycle for a road.