

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Orangetown’s Highway Department Receives APWA 2016  
Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award**

**KANSAS CITY, MO.** – The Town of Orangetown Highway Department was recently selected to receive a national American Public Works Association (APWA) Award of Excellence for the Town’s winter maintenance activities. APWA’s Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award will be presented at the 2016 North American Snow Conference, which takes place May 22-25, 2016 in Hartford, CT in the Connecticut Convention Center. The APWA Excellence in Snow and Ice Control award was established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works snow and ice control operations, and to promote the best practices in snow and ice removal while minimizing environmental impacts. A public works agency is eligible for the award if they are actively involved in snow and ice removal and operations.

The Town of Orangetown is located in Rockland County, NY in a community 20 miles north of New York City. The Orangetown Highway Department’s policy is to provide a transportation system that is passable and safe as much as possible in a system that contains 206 miles of roadway, which includes snow and ice control on 145 miles of town roads, 45 miles of state roads, and 16 miles of county roads.

The department’s primary concern is keeping all roads open for emergency response and vehicular traffic. From November through April, when snow conditions are more likely, the Highway Department works its 25 snow and ice control routes. The department’s snow and ice control plans take into account the possible need to get emergency response vehicles into any part of town. Special attention is given to areas that have places of public assembly, such as municipal buildings, houses of worship, schools, etc. Direct contact is made with four local school district transportation departments to coordinate the movement of students as well as communication with the larger employers to coordinate schedules. In addition to material application, for anti-icing, de-icing, and plowing, the Highway Department removes snow from the business districts in hamlets of Pearl River, Tappan, Blauvelt and Sparkill after heavy storms.

“The Orangetown Highway Department crews clear 25 miles of Safety Sidewalks, clean and clear 25 bus shelters, and clean and clear snow and ice away from drains and catch basins to prevent flooding,” said Superintendent of Highways, James J. Dean. “Also, at locations where tire traction might be a problem, highway crews place barrels with a salt/sand mixture to be used by motorists, which are refilled after every storm. In 2016, the Town of Orangetown introduced its new Town Ordinance for Snow in the Right of Way that prohibits contractors and homeowners from depositing snow onto the right of way. In addition, the Highway Department has an environmental policy for salt storage,” Dean said.

For more information about the Town of Orangetown’s Highway Department, please contact Superintendent of Highways, James Dean at [highwaydept@orangetown.com](mailto:highwaydept@orangetown.com). For more information on the 2016 APWA North American Snow Conference that will be held in Hartford, CT during May 22-25, 2016, visit the APWA website at: [www.apwa.net/snow](http://www.apwa.net/snow). For APWA media queries, contact APWA Media Relations and Communications Manager, Laura Bynum, at [lbynum@apwa.net](mailto:lbynum@apwa.net).

**About APWA**

*The American Public Works Association ([www.apwa.net](http://www.apwa.net)) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 29,500 members involved in the field of public works. APWA serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy and the exchange of knowledge. APWA is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, has an office in Washington, D.C. and 64 chapters in North America.*