

March 13, 2016

Pelham Crews Working During Warmer Winter Weather

Pelham Public Works welcomed the mild winter weather and got an early start on planned maintenance. All sections within the department (including Roads, Water and Wastewater, and Parks, Forestry and Cemeteries) stayed busy working on tasks that normally have to wait when winter operations are underway.

Roads Crews were diligent repairing potholes, inspecting guardrails along municipal roads, installing Pelham Transit and other traffic signs, and examining large drainage structures. In addition to small ditching and drainage improvements, significant repairs were done in-house to the Town's ice resurfacer and backhoe.

Pelham's Water and Wastewater crews normally assist with winter maintenance, but due to the milder weather instead completed pre-construction planning work; crews identified key water service locations to help facilitate repair projects and to prioritize capital funds in the most efficient way. Water Operators also finished post-construction project inspections to ensure that new infrastructure installations are operating as designed, including watermain valves, fire hydrants, and water service shut-off valves.

At the same time, Parks, Forestry and Cemeteries crews accomplished considerable tasks given the weather. Crews maintained turfs, cleaned up gardens and parks of leaves, garbage and debris, and prepared areas for planting. More time was spent working on preventative lawn equipment maintenance and on pruning and removing trees, trimming trees along sidewalks and removing tree stakes. Two key undertakings that could not have been possible during a normal winter are the municipal tree diversity inventory and tree risk assessment. Pelham is partnering with Niagara College's School of Environmental and Horticultural Studies to also complete an urban ash tree inventory starting in late March.

"Public Works keeps a close eye on the weather and we always strive to align our operations with current conditions," said Director of Public Works Andrea Clemencio. "We continue to work as efficiently and dynamically as possible to deliver services to residents."

The Town of Pelham maintains 474 km of roads, 70 km of sidewalks, and numerous facilities, parks, trails and cemeteries.

For more information, please contact: Andrea Clemencio Director of Public Works 905-892-2607 ext. 313