

NEWS RELEASE: Feb. 4, 2011

### **Highway Department concludes plowing operations**

The Greene County Highway Department has concluded plowing operations following this week's blizzard.

All 1,250 miles of county-maintained roads have now been plowed at least once, with extra attention given to major routes. Greene County Highway Administrator Dan Smith said all county roads are now passable, but many remain covered in packed snow.

"We've worked hard to get where we are, but drivers still need to be careful on county roads," said Smith.

County road crews worked round the clock from 11 p.m. Monday until 5:30 p.m. today, working 12-hour shifts. Smith estimates the road clearing operation cost the county \$250,000, including labor, equipment and salt.

Many residential streets were plowed for the first time yesterday and today, and Smith acknowledges that snow plowed from county roads obstructed some driveways.

"As we plow, inevitably, we'll block driveways and mailboxes," Smith said. "Unfortunately, there's nothing we can do about that. With 1,250 miles of roadway to plow, it's just not feasible to clear driveways as well."

Smith thanks residents for parking their vehicles off the street, allowing plows to pass easily.

Road crews are on call this evening and weekend, should additional snowfall necessitate plowing.

For more information, call the Greene County Highway Department at 417-831-3591; or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-224-5510.

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