

## ROAD AGENT

I would like to start by thanking all of those individuals that helped during the December "Ice Storm". Newton residents and local, state, and federal crews were generous with their time and assistance. The highway crews kept the roads open for travel as well as for power companies to do their repairs. This was Mother Nature's second natural disaster to the Town of Newton this year. The first was the heavy rains caused by the July 24<sup>th</sup> tornado, which damaged Audrey Lane and Meadowview Drive and was repaired with the financial assistance from FEMA.

During this year we worked on replacing a box culvert while widening Pond St. at the intersection of Webster Rd. Two catch basins and a drainage pipe were added at the intersection of Highland Street and Whittier Street to stop water runoff and dangerous icing. In September the work was completed at the corner of Peaslee Crossing Road and Smith Corner Road. Over 100 ton of asphalt was used to fill in the potholes that inundated our town roads. With the help of the Board of Selectmen, we were able to plan, approve, and build a much-needed Sand & Salt Storage Shed that abuts the Transfer Station on Dugway Road.

Projects proposed for 2009 include: addressing the drainage issues on Marcoux Road, Quaker Street and Bartlett Street, along with many broken and damaged culverts at other locations; upgrading the road surface on some of the worst roads in town such as Crane Crossing Road, Smith Corner Road, Heath Street, Maple Avenue and Hadley Road, are also being planned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mike Pivero  
Road Agent

## NCAT-20

2008 has seen a huge improvement in Newton's Cable channel. The purchase of new equipment to improve the sound and signal qualities has really paid off. Many residents have commented that they like the new system.

The new switcher that was installed has greatly improved the functionality of the cable channel with the expanded capability. There is some discussion as to whether to create a web site that will show a guide to Newton's cable channel.

Newton cable is still seeking people to tape the Selectmen's, Planning Board and various other town meetings. Anyone interested should contact the Selectmen's office.

Respectfully Submitted,  
James Melkemes  
Cable Committee