



Saint Louis County

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Drier weather to allow public works crews to address gravel roads

By many measures, this has been one of the most difficult winters – and now spring - on record. That includes the toll this weather has taken on gravel roads in St. Louis County. The slushy snow that's fallen in recent weeks, combined with the continuous rain/snow mix of the past week – all at the time when frost is coming up out of the ground – has left many gravel roads in poor condition. Yet, for public works crews to grade the saturated roads now would only make the situation worse, removing expensive gravel and leaving an even soupier mess.

“Approximately half of St. Louis County’s 3,000 miles of roads are gravel, and we absolutely understand the frustration of our citizens who have to travel these roads, because we’re frustrated, too,” said Jim Foldesi, director of Public Works. “This combination of weather conditions is among the worst we’ve ever seen, so we appreciate the public’s patience right now. We are ready and eager to improve these roads just as soon as we get some drier conditions.”

That could take place as early as this Sunday. Public Works crews are paying close attention to the weather forecast, which is calling for warmer temperatures and drier conditions by Sunday. Road maintenance staff will begin working on improving the gravel roads just as soon as it makes sense to do so.

For more information about the St. Louis County Public Works Department and its responsibilities, please visit stlouiscountymn.gov/publicworks.

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