

Property Owners,

Silver Creek has added to its chip seal over gravel road surfacing. The board authorized to chip seal Estes, Elder, Clementa, Armitage Aves and 159<sup>th</sup> and 127<sup>th</sup> St. this season. That's a bit more than 4 miles of new chip seal, added to the current "ring road" (Barton, Curtis Ave and 155<sup>th</sup> St which received its first overlay of chips also). We now have 8 + miles of Chip Seal surfaced gravel. That compares to approximately 22 miles of asphalt hard surfacing in the township.

Chip seal isn't the same as asphalt, but it's more cost effective than gravel and chloride maintenance. Chip Sealing is oil sprayed on the gravel and granite chips added to the oil by a chip spreader. It's like shingles on your house roof, it's a water proof, dust proof surface. Chip seal over gravel needs some considerations if you live on one of the listed roads.

You should not push snow on the road, it is possible the cutting edge of your blade or bucket could cut into the thin chip seal and rip it up. If you are having outside contractors for snow removal, please let them know about the chip seal road surface. Place your garbage cans close to the edge of the surface, this keeps the garbage trucks from crushing the edges of the mat, especially during spring time thawing conditions.

Trailer ramps and construction equipment can damage the thin chip seal road surface mat. Advise your contractors to protect the mat with plywood, rubber mats or other means. Use caution when using skid steers as it could damage the road surface. Trucks backing into your driveway should place fine sand down for the tandem wheels to scrub without tearing the mat.

If you see damage to the surface, please call the maintenance department at 763-878-2600. The nice features of the chip seal is that it is easy and inexpensive to fix.

Chip seal on gravel basically pays for itself in about 5 seasons. The cost of gravel replacement and chloride applications for gravel stabilization/dust is about the same cost of the chip sealed roads. Chloride is only applied at a maximum width of 18ft, the chip seal is 24 to 27 ft. depending on the road width. All of our rebuilt roads have a chip seal width of 27ft wide. Asphalt roads require chip seal to preserve the asphalt at least every 7 years, so chip seal seems to be a viable resource or alternative to gravel and chloride. Ideally, the Board would asphalt the roads, but with asphalt priced around \$120,000 per mile and chip seal \$36,000 per mile, we can chip seal that road 3 times for the cost of asphalt, plus the asphalt will need a chip seal in 7 or 8 years.

As the township rebuilds its roads for safety and structure, it likely will continue to add chip seal to the newly rebuilt roads. When, at some point the roads are all rebuilt, then asphalt could be considered and placed right over the chip seal.

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation with the new chip sealed roads. If you have any questions please call.

Silver Creek Township