

County DPW Successfully Met Challenges During 2018 Storm Events

March 2018 Storms The Greatest Challenge

The County's DPW response to storm events in 2018 can be measured in the significant amount of gallons, tons, and overtime hours listed in the Department's annual report, Freeholder Shaun Van Doren, the Board's liaison for the Department of Engineering and Public Works, reported at the January 22nd Freeholder meeting.

Van Doren reported, "Our DPW personnel deserve great recognition from and appreciation by the public for meeting the challenges in responding to storm events in 2018.

According to the annual report provided by Tom Mathews, Director of Public Works and Engineering, there were fourteen major storm events, beginning back on January 4th and 5th of last year, including the infamous back to back to back storms in March, the surprise storm in November, and as recently as December 13th."

"The data itself tells quite a story;" Van Doren continued, "fourteen events, over 10,000 tons of salt, over 15,000 gallons of calcium, and over 18,000 gallons of gasoline used in ensuring the safety of our residents and those using our roadways.

Add to that the nearly 4000 hours of overtime put in by the personnel working overnight and on weekends, while the rest of us are warm and safe at home, and you can understand the level of commitment by the DPW crews."

Van Doren concluded, "Whether it be snow plowing, brine application, salting roadways, clearing fallen trees and branches, or dealing with other roadway disasters, our crews are commended for their outstanding work in responding to each of these events. And I am sure we can expect more emergency responses to weather events over the coming weeks."