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County Road Maintenance Crews Actively Addressing Spring Thaw Conditions

County maintenance crews are keeping busy this spring to effectively deal with quick spring thaw along local roadways.

“Since March 28th, we’ve responded to close to 400 calls,” says Herb Pfau, County Superintendant of Public Works. “County staff and contractors are been working at high speed and putting in long hours to steam frozen culverts and handle drainage issues along local roads.”

Since the beginning of winter, the Grande Prairie region has accumulated approximately 227 cm of snow, which is higher than the 158 cm average. A combination of heavier snowfall and quick spring thaw has resulted in culverts freezing and higher than normal drainage volumes.

The County maintains approximately 3,300 kms of road. County steam trucks have completed an average 100 culverts each day and will continue to work hard until spring thaw season ends and drainage concerns are fully addressed. Requests for localized road steaming is prioritized based on the risk of damage to roads and private properties.

Residents, businesses and commuters that spot drainage issues or water flowing over a road are asked to avoid the area, obey all road closed signs posted, and immediately contact the County Public Works department at 780-532-7393.

The County would like to thank residents, businesses and commuters for their cooperation and patience throughout this spring thaw season.

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