

info

From: Paul and Martie Semmer <semmer@colorado.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 4:48 PM
To: info
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Capital & Road Maintenance Projects
Attachments: RE_ No mag chloride_ emails to Town _6-28 & 7-18-23.pdf

Town of Blue River Board of Trustees,

I'm forwarding you the reply, below, we received regarding our recent concern about road maintenance on Blue Grouse Trail, submitted on the required Town "Webform submission from: Capital & Road Maintenance Projects". We submitted the form after we received the Town September 2023 Newsletter stating that winter road preparation work would begin 10/2/23.

While I appreciate the quick reply from Staff, I have concerns about how our comment is being addressed. The response is very generic and sounds like the decision to apply road base/mag chloride to all town roads was made well before hearing any concerns/comments from residents.

As you are aware, for over 40 years Martie and I are the only full time residents on Blue Grouse Trail from its intersection with Sherwood Lane to Theobald Way. For several years we have conversed with town administrators and road contractors about maintenance issues on the road, particularly concerning mag chloride. For years those concerns have been addressed, and the attention to those comments has resulted in one of the better maintained roads in town.

The attachment included with this email documents correspondence with Michelle earlier this summer concerning issues with road maintenance in our end of Sherwood Forest – in particular, no mag chloride be applied to Blue Grouse Trail and the portion of Sherwood Lane adjacent to Lot 103. The comments we submitted in response to the September 2023 Newsletter simply asks that the same level of maintenance be applied to Blue Grouse Trail as in the past. In doing so, it saves the Town time and money to address more pressing road maintenance issues on more heavily used roads. Blue Grouse Trail, in the section noted above, does not need road base to fill any ruts or pot holes and does not need mag chloride to bind the already well hardened and smooth surface. Additionally, a considerable amount of any road base applied to Sherwood Lane and Blue Grouse Trail eventually washes off the road and exasperates the ditch maintenance issues, or lack thereof, along Sherwood Lane and Blue Grouse Trail.

How does the Town evaluate the comments received from residents in the "Webform submission from: Capital & Road Maintenance Projects" when developing the annual road work? How was our comment considered in light of the new "Road Maintenance Policy" which states "Requests will be given greater weight when made by a home or property owner that is proximate to the area of the requested maintenance"? How does this response from Staff align with the Town's mission statement "by conserving our natural residential environment, promoting unity with our neighbors and surroundings, channeling the voice of our residents, and enhancing the quality of life for all"?

Is Staff's determination/response to our road maintenance request the final word concerning the scheduled road maintenance? Is there room for exceptions that are well justified and benefit the Town? Can the decision to apply road base and mag chloride to Blue Grouse Trail be reconsidered?

Is there an opportunity for "a home or property owner that is proximate to the area of the requested maintenance" to discuss specific road maintenance requests with Staff and the Road Contractor when developing the Town's road work?

I appreciate your attention to the above comments and look forward to a response to the questions asked in this email.

Respectfully,

Paul Semmer

From: Michelle Eddy <michelle@townofblueriver.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:41 AM
To: Martie Semmer <semmer@colorado.net>
Subject: RE: Webform submission from: Capital & Road Maintenance Projects

Good morning!

Thank you for your email comments concerning maintenance on Blue Grouse Trail. We appreciate your comments and concerns surrounding the maintenance work that will be conducted within the next two weeks. Our Road Contractor has evaluated this area and the maintenance identified is needed as it has been neglected the last several years. There is little to no road base material left on the road and once road base is applied it is necessary to apply mag chloride to ensure it will bond and hold, the same as we treat all town roads.

The road contractor is very cognizant of your concerns and will take great care to ensure the mag does not over spray the area. With proper road base and crowning this will improve the current condition of the road for future use. We are following the guidance of our experienced and educated road contractor to do what's best for the entire area.

Thank you again and have a great day!

Michelle Eddy, MMC/CPM
Town Manager/Clerk
970-547-0545 ext. 1/ Cell: 970-406-2430
<https://townofblueriver.colorado.gov>

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From: Town of Blue River <no-reply@co.colorado.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2023 9:52 AM
To: Michelle Eddy <michelle@townofblueriver.org>
Subject: Webform submission from: Capital & Road Maintenance Projects

Submitted on Monday, October 2, 2023

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Name

Paul and Martie Semmer

Blue River Address

272 Blue Grouse Trail

Comment

The Blue River News September 2023 says starting 10/2 the Town Road Contractor will be working on areas for winter preparation. The work includes "Blue Grouse: Road base; mag-chloride for new road base Starlit to Theobald Way."

As a reminder from past years, in a 6/28/23 email to Michelle we stated that we do not want mag chloride applied to Blue Grouse Trail and Sherwood Lane adjacent to our Lot 103.

From an environmental perspective, we feel that it is very important to keep mag chloride out of the water that flows in the area and it is important to keep mag chloride off vegetation along the sides of the road. Please, inform the road maintenance crews that no mag chloride is to be applied on the above-noted roads.

Additionally, we would request that no road base be applied on Blue Grouse Trail from its intersection with Sherwood Lane to Theobald Way, as minimum along Lot 103. The road is already well hardened and does not need additional surfacing material. Also, the new road base applied to Sherwood Lane and Blue Grouse Trail eventually washes off the road and exasperates the ditch maintenance issues along Sherwood Lane and Bue Grouse trail.

Please acknowledge that our concerns have been addressed. Thanks, Paul and Martie

From: [Paul and Martie Semmer](#)
To: ["Michelle Eddy"](#)
Subject: RE: No mag chloride
Date: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:56:00 PM

Hello Michelle,

Please thank Kacey for us for the replacement culvert on Sherwood Lane that was inadvertently damaged last week.

Per your email below, you acknowledged that there would be no application of mag chloride north on Sherwood Lane adjacent to Lot 103 starting at the intersection with Blue Grouse Trail. Mag Chloride was put on this section of the road today.

Here is what I sent to you on 6/28/23:

“From an environmental perspective, we feel that it is very important to keep mag chloride out of the water that flows in the area and it is important to keep mag chloride off vegetation along the sides of the road. No mag chloride allows for healthier vegetation and a healthier food source for wildlife.” Also, mag chloride can have harmful impacts on the feet of wildlife and pets.

Please, please – in the future will you communicate to the road maintenance crew that there is to be no mag chloride north on Sherwood Lane starting at the intersection with Blue Grouse Trail adjacent to Lot 103. We are very, very thankful that you honored our request for no mag chloride on Blue Grouse Trail. At least, half our request was honored. The next time, we will appreciate your communicating to the road maintenance crew the full request for no mag chloride.

For the next time and into the future, thank you in advance for honoring the [no application of mag chloride](#) - which has been the case for the past several years.

Martie & Paul

From: Michelle Eddy <michelle@townofblueriver.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:56 PM
To: Paul and Martie Semmer <semmer@colorado.net>
Subject: Re: No mag chloride

Yes we are aware.

Thank you.

Michelle Eddy, MMC/CPM

Town Manager/Clerk

Sent from my iPhone-(970)406-2430

On Jun 28, 2023, at 2:51 PM, Paul and Martie Semmer <semmer@colorado.net> wrote:

Hello Michelle,

This is a reminder from past years, that once again this year, we do not want mag chloride applied to Blue Grouse Trail and no mag chloride on the west side of Sherwood Lane adjacent to Lot 103.

The start of no mag chloride begins at the survey marker in the middle of the road at the intersection of Blue Grouse Trail and Sherwood Lane, then no mag chloride continues down Sherwood Lane.

From an environmental perspective, we feel that it is very important to keep mag chloride out of the water that flows in the area and it is important to keep mag chloride off vegetation along the sides of the road. No mag chloride allows for healthier vegetation and a healthier food source for wildlife.

Please, inform the road maintenance crews that no mag chloride on the above-noted roads.

Many thanks in advance for informing the road maintenance crews about “no mag chloride”!

Martie and Paul Semmer