

Let it Snow , Let it Snow, Let it Snow! (Frank Sinatra)

You might notice that Frank never mentioned freezing rain or ice in his song.

Yes!! the weather outside has been frightening. Snow, freezing rain, more snow, wind, more freezing rain, a little more snow, more freezing rain and the cycle went on.

This is the winter that I didn't go to Florida!!



It has been challenging, but Joe Samolis had us prepared as well as can be reasonably expected. Prior to every winter weather event our crews have been out pre-treating our roadway and sidewalk surfaces. This pretreating of surfaces helps to melt the ice and snow as it falls as well as after any accumulation is removed. The weather pattern this year has been particularly challenging to all area municipalities. It takes a lot of effort and requires a little patience to complete the job. Your safety is our most compelling concern. Our most recent ice/snow/freezing rain storm was particularly challenging to our region. We were on the scene as the storm developed with the manpower, and our equipment and we battled the unusual severe winter conditions. As residents, we can help by following our common sense. If we don't have to go out when we are experiencing a major snow or ice event, don't. This recent ice storm was clearly the most significant ice event in memory. It was certainly challenging, but the snow/ice removal results are obvious, our roadway/pathway networks were cleared as expeditiously as possible and the results were far superior to any other local municipality.



Imagination (Figment)

How did you get "The Woods" renovation completed?

It started with your **Imagination**. You all proceeded to co-operatively work together and organized your imagination and thoughts into plans and details.

You then transformed your imagination, conceptual plans and details into an action plan.

Joe Samolis, converted your Imagination and action plan into reality.

Just Imagine what you can get done next year.



**“Do more,
spend less.”**

Do More, Spend Less!! (Samolis Mantra)

This is the Mantra that the District Board has adopted from Joe Samolis. During the past six months of following this Mantra we have achieved more and spent less doing it. Let me share just two recent examples;

1. We received a low bid of \$503,000.00 for this year’s paving plan. That bid was in line with previous sq ft costs. However, it didn’t adhere to our Mantra. We needed to Do More and Spend Less. With Joe’s direction, we went out and received additional bids. The scheduled paving work that we would have previously paid \$503,000.00 was contracted at \$397,000.00.

Dramatic savings achieved by the Samolis Mantra

2. We had a budget of \$85,000.00 to do some limited renovations in your pub. (The Woods). The bids that we initially received were higher than anticipated. We applied the Samolis Mantra. New aggressive bidding positioned us to Do More and Spend Less. Joe achieved a greater and enhanced scope of work for you and stayed within the fiscal parameters established.

Under Budget achieved by the Samolis Mantra

The District Board is utilizing the Samolis Mantra as we build next year’s District budget. We will aggressively control expenses and assure that we Do More and Spend Less. We value and respect every tax dollar and will make your dollars work for you. We are scrutinizing every line item to see where we can do better and spend less. Two of the larger contracts that the District Budget has responsibility for are Waste Removal and Safety/Gate Control. We have made some progress, but we aren’t done.

It’s So Easy (Buddy Holly/Crickets)

The Annual District Budget process really isn’t as hard as we sometimes make it out to be.

We just utilize the **Samolis Mantra**. We are committed to giving people more than they expect in services and capital improvements and tax them less than they expect. It’s so easy!!!



**Walking on Sunshine
(Katrina & The Waves)**

A day that we all look forward to is the day when we turn our clocks ahead. Longer days of sunshine are here. This year that day is Sunday March 9th. I like to think of it as being the end of winter. Maybe I will be correct this year.

Always use this day as the day to remember to replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. (if yours are not hard wired)

You made it through a particularly tough winter and soon the golfers will be headed for the course, fisherman will be taking to your waterways, the mallards will be returning to your ponds and we will all be walking or relaxing in The Woods.

Country Roads (John Denver)

In April we are scheduled to pave Conifer and Madison. We will update you with greater specific details as they develop. The weather is the determinate factor in the re-opening of the area asphalt plant.



The Irish Rover (Tommy Makem/Clancy Brothers)

Don't be fooled into thinking that March 17th is the only day to celebrate St Patrick's Day!! In **The Woods** we celebrate St Patrick's Day Weekend! It all starts on the Ides of March. Become an Irish Rover for the weekend and take a walk in **The Woods**. Maybe you can stop in and enjoy the **Woods famous Foynes/Sahm Irish Coffee!!**

"Keep your face toward the sunshine
and shadows will fall behind you"
(Walt Whitman)



Enjoy good times, good friends and
good health,

Billy V

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