Why We Chip Seal Our Roads

Chip sealing is a cost-effective pavement preservation treatment used to extend the life of our roads. Think of it as a heavy-duty, protective sealant that shields a road before serious damage sets in.

Key Benefits

- **Massive Cost Savings:** Chip sealing costs a fraction of a full asphalt repaving. By protecting roads that are still structurally sound, we stretch our infrastructure budget much further and defer expensive reconstruction projects.
- **Waterproofing & UV Protection:** Sunlight dries out roads, causing minor cracks. Water then seeps into those cracks, freezes, and expands—which is how potholes are born. Chip sealing coats the road in liquid asphalt, sealing those cracks and keeping moisture out.
- **Better Traction:** The layer of small, crushed stones ("chips") creates a textured surface that improves tire grip and overall driving safety, especially in wet weather.

The Process & What to Expect

1. **Preparation:** The road is swept clean and minor potholes are patched.
2. **Application:** A truck sprays hot liquid asphalt, immediately followed by a machine spreading the aggregate chips.
3. **Compaction:** Heavy rollers press the stones firmly into the fresh asphalt.
4. **Sweeping:** Traffic is allowed back on the road at reduced speeds to help set the stones. After a brief curing period, sweeping trucks return to vacuum up any loose gravel.

Driver Reminder: Please drive slowly during the curing process. Loose stones are normal for a few days after application and can kick up if vehicles travel too fast. The road will also feel rougher and sound louder at first, but it will smooth out over time with regular traffic.