

And what a pothole season it has turned out to be. It is payback, really, for the potholes of the state. Last season saw the sparsest crop of potholes Minnesota has ever seen. We skipped right past pothole season and went from seminar season, heck, two-thirds into seminar season right into golf season. Pothole season was eliminated before it even began.

Pothole season makes people grumpy. The winter is supposed to be coming to an end but it is not. The snow and cold keep coming like an unwanted fungus. The blade on our plow is just about worn down to the nub. Salt supplies are running very low. Even the cat and dog are going nuts from being trapped in the house for so long.

I suppose superintendents should embrace pothole season in a strange way. If they are behind in their winter work, it is a chance to catch up and be super ready for the growing season. No need for those extra hires in the early spring, which makes the budget look better. Plenty of extra time to plan, make sure all the T's are crossed and all the I's dotted. But if pothole season lasts too long, busy season turns into the entire golf season, and that opens up a whole new can of worms.

So why do I bring all this up?

Surely pothole season is not news to anybody living in Minnesota or Western Wisconsin. It is a normal progression in normal weather years. I guess the point is that this is natural. That this is normal for this time of year around these parts and last year was the abnormal year. I remember hearing last year that this was going to be the new normal. That weather patterns have shifted so that Minnesota was going to become Omaha. Real Minnesota winter was a thing of the past. Right. Step outside and tell me another one.

Now don't get me wrong, I do think climate change is real, and some steps need to be taken so we do not use up this planet for future generations. But if I hear one more thing about how Minnesota is the new Omaha I am going to get unreasonable. Clearly, that is just not the case. If we have a cool summer I bet you will even hear a story about global cooling.

So make the most out of pothole season as best you can, and hopefully avoid the gaping chasms anxious to do your vehicle malice. May all your grass emerge from the white abyss healthy, happy, and ready to grow. Enjoy the season, whatever it may be.