Preserving Concrete Surface Coatings and Bridge Expansion Joints

You may have noticed that many of our bridges have been given a new look. These bridges have had a Capital Scheduled Maintenance treatment applied to them called “Concrete Surface Coating”. This coating extends the life of the concrete and the service life of the bridge. Another item helping to extend the service life of a bridge is the expansion joint. This joint keeps contaminants from damaging important structural components. For these items to work, they must be kept intact.

One way to keep these coatings and joints intact is to maintain adequate clearance between the plow blades and the curbs and barrier walls. It is understood that snow removal operations occur in the worst of conditions but in order to help preserve these coatings and joints, extra care should be taken on and around bridges while plowing. This will help us in our goal of maximizing the life of our bridges.