



VILLAGE OF GOLD RIVER  
POLICY MANUAL

SUBJECT: Snow and Ice Control	POLICY NO:
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**Purpose:**

To establish an effective and efficient provision of snow and ice control operations to allow the municipality to function under normal winter weather conditions. A policy is necessary to make a clear statement of the intent of Municipal Snow and Ice Control Operations and to establish a framework for the priorities within which limited resources will be applied.

**Policy:**

1. The intent of Snow and Ice Control Operations is to maintain municipal streets and sidewalks in a safe and passable condition. Snow and Ice Control services are not intended to eliminate all hazardous conditions on municipal streets or sidewalks at all times. They are intended to assist vehicles which are properly equipped for winter driving and being operated in a manner consistent with good winter driving habits and maintain safe and passable walking conditions (which may not always be on sidewalks) for pedestrians in winter footwear.
2. It is expected that under normal winter conditions there will be situations when the immediate demand for Snow and Ice Control services will exceed the available resources. In order to maximize the benefits of operations, Snow and Ice Control forces shall conduct operations according to the following priorities:
  - a. First Priority: emergency routes, steep hills
  - b. Second Priority: arterial roads, collector roads
  - c. Third Priority: local roads, sidewalks and walkways, cul-de-sacs, parking lots

**Operational Procedures:**

1. Snow and Ice Control Operations will be undertaken by the Village owned or leased equipment supplemented if necessary by equipment from the Private Sector. Private Sector equipment and operators engaged in Snow Control Operations must be reliable and effective.



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2. Sanding and or the application of de-icing chemicals shall be undertaken when necessary to maintain reasonably safe and passable street and sidewalk conditions for pedestrians in winter footwear and properly equipped vehicles utilizing caution considering the sidewalk, road and weather conditions.
3. Snow clearing operations on municipal streets normally will be initiated when approximately 10 centimeters (four (4) inches) of snow has fallen, or when lesser snowfall is causing dangerous conditions as determined by the employee in charge. The weather conditions may impact the timing of the decision to initiate or delay plowing.
4. Plowing priorities for municipal streets shall be as follows:
  - a. Emergency routes
  - b. Steep hills
  - c. Arterial roads
  - d. Collector roads
  - e. Local roads
  - f. Cul-de-sacs
  - g. Parking lots
5. Sidewalks will be plowed after roadways have been cleared to a reasonable standard. Sidewalks in the areas of schools, the Health Clinic, Matchlee Bridge and the Village Office (Monday to Friday) will be plowed first. Sidewalks and walkways in all other areas will be plowed as work schedules permit. Some walkways and stairways may be closed at the discretion of the Public Works Superintendent or designate until resources are available to clear these areas to a reasonable standard. The Village does not normally utilize overtime for clearing sidewalks and walkways.
6. Fire hydrant locations will be cleared of accumulated snow following street plowing and sidewalk clearing to maintain Fire Department access. Where hydrants are not visible due to snow accumulation hydrants will be marked or posted.



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7. A program including warnings and tickets (fines) will be maintained to regulate and enforce Winter Season on Street Parking restrictions and to encourage the use of Off Street Parking. Vehicles failing to comply with the above restrictions will be removed at the vehicle owner's cost.
8. It is the intent of this procedure that Snow and Ice Control Operations shall be carried out in a manner so as to minimize adverse impact on the Environment. The use of salt and other de-icing chemicals will be minimized when possible. It is recognized that under certain conditions it is necessary to apply salt and de-icing chemicals to municipal streets and sidewalks to maintain safe and passable conditions.
9. Snow placed on municipal streets, lanes, or sidewalks or in a manner as to create a hazard by private individuals or companies will not be permitted. Removal costs for such snow or ice incurred by the Village may be charged to the property owner/tenant.