



Town of Rockford Snow Removal Policy

Adopted 10/21/2015

The Town of Rockford believes that it is in the best interest of the residents for the town to assume basic responsibility for control of snow and ice on town streets. Reasonable ice and snow control is necessary for routine travel and emergency services. The town will provide such control in a safe and cost effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel and environmental concerns. The town will utilize town employees, equipment and/or private contractors to provide this service.

The Public Works operator will decide when to begin snow or ice control operations. The criteria for that decision will be:

1. Snow accumulation of four inches or more with the exception of East Emma Street which will be plowed at two inches of snowfall.
2. Drifting snow that causes problems for travel
3. Icy conditions
4. Time of snowfall in relationship to heavy use of streets

HOW SNOW WILL BE PLOWED

Snow will be plowed in a manner so as to minimize any traffic obstruction. The center of the roadway will be plowed first. The snow shall then be pushed from left to right. When a plow goes on a bridge, the driver shall slow down so that snow does not go over the bridge if possible. In times of extreme snowfall, streets may not always be immediately completely cleared of snow.

SNOW REMOVAL

The Public Works operator will determine when snow will be removed by truck from the area. Such snow removal will occur in areas where there is no room on the street for snow storage and in areas where accumulated piles of snow create a hazardous condition. Snow removal operations will not commence until other snowplowing operations have been completed. Snow removal operations may also be delayed depending on weather conditions, personnel and budget availability. The snow will be removed and hauled to a snow storage area. The snow storage area will be located so as to minimize environmental problems.

PRIORITIES FOR PLOWING

Town Shop/Fire Station
East Emma Street to Frisbie Way
Maple Street
Bus Routes
Residential Streets

WORK SCHEDULE

Snow plow operators will generally work eight hours shifts. In severe snow emergencies operators may have to work up to 12 shifts, but no operator shall work more than a 12 hours shift in any 24 hour period.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Snow and ice control operations will be conducted only when weather conditions do not endanger the safety of town employees and equipment. Factors that may delay snow and ice control operations include severe cold, significant winds and limited visibility.

USE OF SAND, SALT AND OTHER CHEMICALS

The town will use sand, salt and other chemicals when there is hazardous ice or slippery conditions. The town is concerned about the effect of such chemicals on the environment and will limit its use for that reason.

SIDEWALKS

The town will make an effort to remove snow from the downtown area sidewalks, provided personnel and funds are available. Business owners should not assume the town will be solely responsible for the sidewalks in front of their businesses. It will be necessary for business owners to work in conjunction with town personnel to keep the sidewalks snow and ice free.

RESIDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

Residents are responsible for snow removal on the sidewalks in front of their property. The town is not responsible for driveways. You should expect to have to keep your driveway open. If at all possible, refrain from parking vehicles on the street when it's likely that plowing will be necessary.