



SNOW REMOVAL & ICE CONTROL PLAN

Public Plan

2022-2023

Public Works Department

3505 N. Dries Lane
Peoria, IL 61604

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PROGRAM GOALS

The primary goals of the City's snow removal and ice control program are to maintain safe travel routes during the winter season as well as to restore mobility for the traveling public within a reasonable time frame following winter storm conditions. Public Works staff is trained in snow removal procedures using fleet equipped with plows and salt spreaders to help accomplish this goal.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The overall objectives are: 1) To keep the public informed of the service delivery they can expect when experiencing winter weather conditions and 2) To provide a planning tool by which to improve the procedure through identification and resolution of problems.

I. TARGET LEVEL OF SERVICE

The City of Peoria does not have a "bare pavement" policy as this would dramatically increase costs and have negative environmental impacts. Matching the level of service to vehicular volumes reduces salt usage while providing high quality winter travel. Primary streets receive the first and highest level of effort followed by residential streets.

The City's goal is to plow all of its roadways – primary as well as residential – of snow accumulation of more than two inches (2") within a 24-hour period after the event has ended, and within 36 hours with an accumulation of 6" or more.

The first action in a snowstorm is "pre-treating" - to spread liquid brine on primary streets, including hills, bridges and overpasses. The biggest problem in removing ice and packed snow is breaking the bond with the pavement surface. Brine provides a barrier to minimize or eliminate this bond on primary streets.

A. ROADWAYS

Priority 1 - Primary roadways include those adjacent to schools and leading to hospitals. These are generally considered arterial and higher traffic volume collector roadways.

Priority 2 – Lower traffic volume collector roadways, residential streets & cul-de-sacs. During and after a storm, some streets may become snow packed due to vehicular traffic on unplowed roads, wind and drifting conditions. All attempts will be made to reduce snow-packed situations on primary streets. Snow accumulations impairing motorists' sight distances will be monitored and addressed as needed.

ROADWAYS MAINTAINED BY OTHER AGENCIES: State and County roadways are usually maintained by City crews under a General Maintenance Agreement. However, there are certain roadways – War Memorial Drive, Knoxville Avenue north of War Memorial Drive, Charter Oak Road and Big Hollow Road, to name a few – that are not maintained by City crews.

B. CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (CBD)

During times of heavy snow accumulation, the Downtown area will require snow removal. Due to limited space, however, snow that is cleared from streets, sidewalks and parking

lots must be removed to make room for curbside parking. This operation is typically performed utilizing contracted personnel.

C. FIRE STATIONS

In order to maintain emergency response during a snow and ice event, Fire Stations will be maintained by the Public Works Department.

D. PARKING LOTS/DECKS

All City parking lots will be plowed during the first available night shift following a storm event and are the responsibility of the Public Works Department and contracted personnel. Operations may be adjusted if storm clean-up occurs on a weekend or holiday.

E. ALLEYS

Alleys are not plowed during the lower category storms. Alley conditions will be evaluated during heavier snow accumulations to determine if City assistance is needed to maintain mobility. Due to their narrow width, plowing alleys deposits snow on (and potentially causes damage to) adjacent structures such as garages and fences due to lack of space available to store snow. Windrows in the alleys from plowing can also make it difficult to place trash cans for collection and minimize property access. Actions to maintain mobility in alleys may include driving four-wheel drive vehicles through alleys or opening alleys by pushing (not plowing) snow with an end-loader bucket from one end to the other.

F. ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS

At no time during or after snow removal operations will City vehicles be used to clear snow or ice from private property, except where it can be shown that snow was disproportionately placed on private property, in exceptional circumstances of a life-threatening nature or medical necessity, or as may be directed by the City Manager or Public Works Director. Under no circumstances will a City employee be allowed to use a City-owned vehicle to push, pull or tow a stranded vehicle from a roadway or parking lot. If a hazardous condition exists, the Public Works employee is to notify the Operations & Maintenance Facility staff on duty of the hazardous condition and provide all necessary information for appropriate follow-up by emergency personnel.

G. COORDINATION WITH OTHER PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES

Snow removal is not the only function performed by the Public Works Department during the winter months. For example, it has become commonplace to simultaneously address flooded streets and tree limb removal due to the inclement weather. On-duty Supervisors have the authority to prioritize all work activities given weather conditions and staff availability.

H. MUTUAL AID

Contracts with other municipalities are maintained in case of emergency.

II. SNOW REMOVAL & ICE CONTROL RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibility of providing snow removal and ice control for the City's 483 centerline miles of streets, 683 cul-de-sacs and dead ends, 49 parking lots & decks, business districts, sidewalks and five (5) City-owned buildings rests entirely on the Public Works Department. Snow and ice control is considered emergency work as streets must be

cleared any time of the day or night. As such, careful planning and preparation is required prior to the winter season due to the potential hazard to the motoring public and high incidence of overtime involved in this program. Variable conditions encountered during storm events such as the rate of snowfall, accumulation, moisture content, temperature, time of day, wind direction, velocity and duration make this process considerably more difficult. No two storms are identical in their characteristics nor will they be handled in exactly the same manner.

A. EMPLOYEES

All Public Works employees - permanent and temporary maintenance workers – are involved in snow and ice removal. Division Managers and Supervisors from Traffic, Streets/Sewers/Forestry and Fleet/Equipment Services all have a supervisory role in snow and ice removal operations. Supervisors maintain adequate supplies of salt and additional materials, assign duties to staff and monitor storm conditions. Staff working the Public Works Call Center have the supporting role of answering calls from the public.

B. ROUTE DRIVERS

Streets & Sewers Supervisors assign trucks to routes. These routes are then bid during the last week of October by regular, fulltime employees.

12-HOUR SHIFTS: When the Public Works Director or his designee deems it necessary, an around-the-clock operation consisting of two (2) 12-hour shifts may be implemented and regular shifts cancelled. Shifts consisting of 12-hours on duty with 12-hours off duty and will be mandatory.

C. FLEET SERVICES

Fleet technicians shall be assigned a 12-hour work schedule during snow events to accommodate all shifts in order to address vehicle/equipment repairs in a timely manner. Technicians will be called in concurrent with plowing operations and at the Supervisor's discretion during salting operations.

D. SIDEWALKS

1. RESIDENTIAL

All residential sidewalks adjacent to private property are the responsibility of the property owner. The City's responsibility is to plow the streets to accommodate motor traffic. Due to certain locations of some sidewalks and/or the volume of snow being removed, there may be an occasion when the plowing operation deposits additional snow onto a sidewalk; however, it is still the responsibility of the property owner to remove snow from their property's sidewalk.

2. COMMERCIAL

All commercial property owners - including public and private schools, hospitals, and churches - must remove snow from sidewalks on the public right-of-way adjacent to their respective business within 24 hours after the snow stops falling, when accumulations are less than 6 inches, and within 36 hours after 6 or more inches of snow accumulates. If another snow event occurs, the clock is reset to the end of the most recent snowfall. Snow must be removed from the sidewalk to a minimum of 4-feet wide to accommodate wheelchairs and strollers.

< 6 inches of snow = within 24 hours
≥ 6 inches of snow = with 36 hours

Noncompliance with this City Ordinance (Ord. No. 17268) could result in a civil penalty of \$50.00 for sidewalks less than 200 linear feet in length, or \$100.00 for sidewalks longer than 200 feet. The City may remove the snow or ice on private property when the owner fails to comply within the designated time period, and charge the cost to the property owner.

CityLink is responsible for snow removal within a 10-foot radius around bus shelters and benches on marked primary snow routes.

Exceptions include sidewalk accessible ramps at intersections on marked primary snow routes which are adjacent to commercial property, schools, hospitals, and churches. These locations will be the responsibility of the City. Another exception is when snow/ice is deposited on the sidewalk as a result of government action.

E. DRIVEWAYS

City employees are not allowed to clear private driveways except under emergency conditions and only with the explicit approval of the on-duty Supervisor. Snow placed in driveways by City plows is the responsibility of the property owner to remove.

The depositing of snow from private property onto streets is strictly prohibited. City Code reads as follows:

Chapter 26 STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES
Article I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 26-25. Sweeping, shoveling, etc., snow, ice, etc., upon public ways. No person shall sweep, shovel, pile, or cause to be swept, shoveled or piled, any snow, ice or other waste upon any of the streets, avenues, alleys, sidewalks or other public ways of the city.

The Police Department shall be requested to make every effort to strictly enforce the above section.

III. COMMUNICATION

The City strives to keep the public informed of storm events proactively and throughout the duration of a storm by utilizing various communication resources as listed below:

- **Snow Updates** will be available by calling **309/494-8830**. This is a recorded message that is updated as storm conditions change. Public Works Administrative staff will have access to it on a rotating basis.
- **Cable Channel 22** – A crawl providing up-to-date plowing information and parking ban announcements will run 24/7 (24 hours/day, 7 days/week).
- **TV & Radio** – All media outlets are prepared to interrupt programming in order to give the public updated storm information during severe storm events. Daily press

- releases/news alerts will go out in times of crisis. (**WEEK, WHOI, WMBD/WYZZ**, for example). There are 26 area radio stations that will also receive storm updates including **WCBU** and **Traffic One** Radio.
- **Social Media** – Facebook (PeoriaIL), Twitter (@CityofPeoria_IL) and Next Door will be updated by the City’s Information Officer Stacy Peterson.
 - **Neighborhood Associations** will be copied on news releases sent to the media regarding snow removal progress providing yet another resource for residents. The Neighborhood President emails are on Public Works email list for press releases.
 - **Website** – www.peoriagov.org The City’s website will provide timely storm updates as they are available as well as snow route maps and information. On the e-alert page the community has access to sign up for snow alerts. The City also has an app for citizens’ smartphones or to access via WiFi to report “Snow Removal.” <https://ureport.peoriagov.org/crm>.
 - **Outdoor Digital Advertising Boards** – When in effect, Adams Outdoor Advertising will add a Parking Ban message to their advertising rotation throughout the City. These digital boards are located at the following eight (8) sites:

~ I-74 @ Knoxville Avenue	~ Knoxville @ Mt. Hawley (2-sided)
~ War Memorial Drive @ University	~ War Memorial at Indiana
~ University Street @ Glen Avenue	~ War Memorial @ Wisconsin
~ Pioneer Parkway @ Hale	~ I-74 @ Glendale Avenue
 - **Public Works Call Center (494-8850)** – If warranted, extra personnel will be called in to staff this Call Center for citizens’ questions and concerns during snow or ice events of significant accumulation or duration. If call volumes prevent an operator from being readily available to answer, a voicemail system specific to the Call Center will be used as backup. This will allow callers to leave a voicemail message so the designated staff person can retrieve and respond as soon as possible.
 - **Brochure Distribution**– A “Snow Procedure” brochure is available for public distribution at Peoria City Hall, Operations & Maintenance Facility on Dries Lane, Peoria County Courthouse, local firehouses, libraries and neighborhood organizations.

NOTE: Non-City employees (primarily medical personnel or those needing medical attention) could be provided transportation by the City upon request by calling the Police Non-Emergency number 309/494-8300.

****For emergency services, citizens should call 911.****

EMERGENCIES

If a Police, Fire or medical emergency requires snow removal assistance, these circumstances will be given highest priority at the direction of the on-duty Supervisor.

IV. SNOW ROUTES, SALTING, PLOWING SNOW & ICE THRESHOLDS

A. PRE-STORM ACTIVITIES

When indications are high that a winter storm event is likely to occur, preparations will begin immediately to address the approaching storm. This includes, but not limited to,

checking weather service and local news reports, viewing on-site radar images and pre-treating hills, bridges and overpasses with brine. (This can be done up to 72 hours in advance and still be effective.) Depending on the timing and anticipated strength of a pending storm, equipment may be loaded with salt, fuel tanks filled and plows attached to trucks.

B. ROUTES

The City has established a priority routing system that allows maintenance of primary roadways, hills, streets and alleys. These routes are modified as necessitated by growth of the City. Routing decisions are based on the most cost-effective utilization of manpower and equipment.

C. SALTING

Under normal conditions, salting alone may be sufficient to melt 1 to 2 inches of snow on roadways that are treated. Salt spreaders are calibrated for a specific number of pounds per lane mile with minimal salt waste (bouncing off the roadway and beyond the curb). During heavy and rapid-accumulation snowfall events, salting operations may be suspended until the accumulation rate eases. During such suspensions, only plowing will occur.

D. PLOWING THRESHOLD

Plowing occurs when the accumulation of snow on streets reaches two inches (2") or as determined by on-duty Supervisors. Salting of these areas would follow if/as needed. Snow will be pushed to curbs and drainage inlets uncovered. No snow will be left or piled in the centers of the cul-de-sac "bulbs" unless there is an island. Snow will be pushed up and over curbs wherever open areas exist between driveways, fire hydrants and mailboxes. Plowing requires all frontline 7- and 10-Ton trucks and may also include contracted plowing.

E. ICE CONTROL THRESHOLD

Roadways are salted to eliminate or minimize icy conditions. The on-duty Supervisors determine timing and duration of ice control procedures.

F. SAND/SALT MIXTURE

If the availability of rock salt becomes limited, City crews will take a cautious approach to application rates and frequency using an FA-20 sand/salt mixture. Operational adjustments, such as treating primary intersections only and no residential treatment other than hills or other hazards, may need to be made to reduce salt use during snow events. Pre-treating before, and applying straight salt applications during, an ice event will be priority. Sand/salt applications require other operational changes to compensate for a conservative use of materials.

V. WEATHER FORECASTING

Forecasts will occasionally be in error and operational plans may abruptly change as a result. Public Works personnel will use a combination of reports from contracted weather services, media weather reports, online satellite data and personal experience to adapt snow removal operations to the current conditions.

VI. PARKING

A. ON-STREET

On-street parking control is a year-round issue. It impacts the ability to adequately perform many street maintenance functions. It makes plowing hazardous and can severely restrict the ability to open areas for emergency vehicles during storms. The parking controls on Snow Routes are important for an effective Snow Plan. Additional parking restrictions on non-routed streets will be instituted in select areas as warranted by storm conditions. Such restrictions will be well communicated prior to implementation and enforcement will be coordinated with the Peoria Police Department. Violators will be ticketed and may be towed. Signs are posted along all Snow Routes and streets where parking is allowed, clearly indicating parking allowances and restrictions to motorists.

B. PARKING BANS

The City Manager or his designee may declare a Parking Ban – prohibited or restricted street parking – for snowplowing or other purposes based on his assessment of a United States Weather Bureau (or other reputable weather service agency) weather forecast. Parking bans may be put into effect on selected or all snow emergency routes as necessary. These will be announced through the news media and digital advertising boards throughout the City. Parking Bans remain in effect for 48 hours unless otherwise noted.

Notwithstanding, a Parking Ban automatically goes into effect on any part of a snow emergency route where there is an accumulation of two inches (2”) of snow and/or ice and an additional inch or more is forecasted. Parking Bans will remain in effect for 48 hours unless the City Manager or his designee extends the ban further. When some or all of the conditions no longer exist, the City Manager or his designee may declare the Parking Ban terminated in whole or in part. A record of the time and date of every Parking Ban – whether declared or automatic – will be maintained by the City Manager or his designee.

VII. PROPERTY DAMAGE AND REPAIR

A. RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)

Although all efforts are made to avoid any damage during snow and ice removal operations, it does occur. In cases of turf damage from a plow jumping the curb, the area will be seeded in the spring as soon as weather conditions allow. Only under extreme circumstances will ROW damage be restored as a result of excessive salt.

B. MAILBOXES

Mailboxes are occasionally damaged during snow removal operations. When possible, the mailbox will be put back in place; otherwise, City staff will install a replacement box at the earliest possible time. In some cases, a temporary mailbox may be warranted until conditions allow proper and permanent repairs to be made.

C. SOD/GRASS

In cases of turf damage from a plow jumping the curb, the sod/grass will be put back in place; otherwise, the area will be seeded in the spring as soon as weather conditions

allow for proper and permanent repairs. Irrigation systems on private property but within the public right-of-way are not the responsibility of the City of Peoria.

VIII. DEPARTURE FROM POLICY

When unusual or unexpected conditions warrant a departure from these general guidelines, the on-duty Supervisors, in consultation with the Storm Supervisor, Public Works Director, City Manager, Police Chief and/or Fire Chief, may order a departure from these general guidelines when conditions require such action.

IX. STORM LEVELS AND CATEGORIES

Variables such as wind speed and direction, temperatures during and following a storm, time of day and month of year all play important roles in determining how best to implement an effective Snow Removal and Ice Control Plan. These variables, as well as actual accumulation, ultimately drive the work activity required for each storm. Pre-treating hills, bridges and overpasses with brine is done within 72 hours prior of a major snow or ice event. Storms are divided into Levels. **Level I** encompasses storms with less than (<) two inches (2") snow accumulation; **Level II** storms range from two inches (2") to less than (<) six inches (6") snow accumulation and **Level III** storms range from six (6") to greater than (>) twelve inches (12") snow accumulation. Within each of these Levels, storms are further divided into *categories* (**Category 1 – 6**) to indicate the estimated severity of the weather conditions, the actions necessary and the estimated time to complete each action. For example:

LEVEL I

Category 1 – a frost, ice or nuisance snow. May include isolated icing at hills, bridges, overpasses and some intersections. The areas are patrolled on a 24-hour basis and salt applied to problem areas. Typically 0-4 hours to complete.

Category 2 – a prediction of <2" of snow. All hills, bridges, overpasses and major intersections on Primary snow routes are treated with rock salt or liquid calcium chloride as needed. Depending upon conditions, all snow routes may be treated. Typically 4-8 hours to complete *after storm ends*.

LEVEL II

Category 3 – a prediction of 2" to 4" of snow. Parking restrictions for all marked snow routes are in effect as indicated on the signs. Other parking restrictions may be implemented. All City streets are plowed and, where necessary, streets and intersections may be treated with salt. Mobility will be maintained in alleys. Typically 8-24 hours to complete *after storm ends*.

Category 4 – a prediction of >4" to 6" of snow. Parking restrictions for all marked Snow Routes are in effect as indicated on the signs. Other parking restrictions may be implemented. All City streets are plowed and, where necessary, streets and intersections may be treated with salt. Mobility will be maintained in alleys. Typically, 24 hours to complete plowing *after storm ends*.

LEVEL III

Category 5 – a prediction of >6" to 12" of snow. Parking restrictions for all marked Snow Routes are in effect as indicated on the signs. Other parking restrictions may be implemented. All City streets are plowed and, where necessary, streets and/or intersections may be treated with salt as

required. Due to the accumulation of snow, in/out plowing will be implemented for off-route streets. The City will maintain mobility in alleys and may clear/remove snow from sidewalks in the Downtown area and along curbside sidewalks on higher-speed arterials. A command center to assist in communications and coordination may also be implemented. ECC may declare an emergency and request State or other assistance. Typically, 36 hours to complete plowing and treating once the *storm ends*; may take up to 7 days for removal/pushing snow back after streets are cleared.

Category 6 – a prediction of >12” of snow. Parking restrictions for all marked Snow Routes are in effect as indicated on the signs. Other parking restrictions may be implemented. All City streets are plowed and, where necessary, streets and/or intersections may be treated with salt as required. Due to the accumulation of snow, in/out plowing will be implemented for off-route streets. The City will maintain mobility in alleys and may clear/remove snow from sidewalks in the Downtown area and along curbside sidewalks on higher-speed arterials using private contractors. A command center to assist in communications and coordination will be implemented. ECC may declare an emergency and request State or other assistance. Typically, 36 hours to complete plowing and treating once the *storm ends*; may take up to 14 days for removal/pushing snow back after streets are cleared.

X. DEFINITIONS

Mobility – Maintaining a path in alleys and roadways.

Off-Routes – Plowing, treating and removing snow from non-routed streets. May be in/out plowing only to allow mobility as early as is practical in a storm. Crews would finish clearing snow curb-to-curb at a later time.

Opening alleys: When mobility in alleys is restricted due to heavy accumulations, the City may push the snow with an endloader bucket from one end to the other or drive the alleys with four-wheel drive vehicles to enhance mobility.

Pre-treating – City crews spread brine on City streets in advance (up to 72 hours) of a snow/ice event to proactively help break the bond of the elements with driving surfaces.

Pre-wetting – City crews wet the salt with brine or calcium chloride at the truck’s spinner while actively plowing.

Plowing – Pushing snow from roadways.

Plowing curb-to-curb: Plowing/pushing snow back to the curb or edge of the pavement so that all traffic lanes and storm drain inlets are fully cleared.

Plowing in/out: Removing snow from a street in a narrow path to allow residents mobility as early as is practical in a storm. Crews return later to finish clearing the snow curb to curb (see definition above). This practice is often used in situations when there is a great

deal of accumulation causing mobility to be difficult or impossible and clearing of all streets curb-to-curb will take several days.

Treating – Spreading salt, calcium chloride, brine or sand/salt mixture.

XI. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) & ANSWERS

Emergency 911
State Police 1-800/452-4368 (Road conditions)
Public Works Information - 494-8850
Emergency Transportation - 494-8300
Storm Updates (current recording) - **494-8830**

1. WHO is RESPONSIBLE for clearing snow-filled streets?

The City of Peoria clears most streets within the City limits. There are, however, a number of roads in the City that are the responsibility of other local government agencies. State roads, such as War Memorial Drive and Knoxville north of War Memorial Drive, are the responsibility of the Illinois Department of Transportation; and portions of roads such as Charter Oak Road and Willow Knolls Road, are plowed by Peoria County crews.

2. When do City crews BEGIN PLOWING?

The City of Peoria may begin an all-out plowing effort whenever two inches (2") of snow have accumulated and snow is still falling. The City's goal is to clear all streets within 24 hours after the snow *stops falling* in an average winter storm (4"-5" accumulation), but heavier snows often take longer to clear. According to the National Weather Service, the average snowfall for our area is 24" annually.

3. Which streets are PLOWED FIRST?

The City has established a priority plowing system for our 483 center lane miles of roadway so that *main traffic routes*, such as *arterials and collectors*, are plowed first. Also, to ensure that everyone lives within 2500 feet of a Primary Snow Route, some residential City streets might be classified as a Primary Snow Route.

Peoria officials will decide during each snow event whether it is necessary to implement additional *residential parking restrictions*. If required due to snow accumulation, parking will be prohibited on the EVEN side of residential streets on the even-numbered days of the month and on the ODD side of the street on odd-numbered days of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. the following day. Restrictions may be implemented City-wide or in specific areas, as needed.

4. What should I do in an EMERGENCY?

During a heavy snowfall, **when emergency services are needed, call 911**. For emergency medically-related transportation, call 309/494-8300.

5. What about plowing CUL-DE-SACS?

The City of Peoria has about 683 cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets. Cul-de-sacs are the most difficult and time-consuming streets to plow because of the limited space in which

to dump snow without burying driveways, mailboxes, streetlights or fire hydrants. The increasing number of cul-de-sacs and other dead-end streets has significantly increased the amount of time required to clear non-routed streets in Peoria.

6. **What steps does Peoria take to PREVENT ICE FROM FORMING on streets?**

When either snow or ice begins to accumulate, rock salt is spread on streets to prevent unsafe travel conditions. The use of rock salt (sodium chloride) is the most efficient and cost-effective method of snow/ice control for small amounts of winter precipitation. The amount of salt used is based on total accumulation, temperature and traffic conditions. When temperatures are very low, rock salt is pre-wetted with liquid calcium chloride or brine to accelerate melting. In addition, vehicular traffic aids the melting action and helps minimize the amount of salt used.

7. **Do all streets get SALTED?**

All main thoroughfares and routed residential streets may be salted in response to snow or ice. Generally, salt is not applied on cul-de-sacs or other residential streets because of the minimal amount of vehicular traffic. Without adequate traffic, the salt application would need to be increased three- or four-fold to accomplish satisfactory melting. Not only would this increase costs, but also this concentrated salt application would cause rust and deterioration on vehicles, and be detrimental to the environment as well. It takes approximately three (3) hours to salt all the City streets.

8. **Who clears SIDEWALKS and DRIVEWAYS?**

Both are the responsibility of residents and property owners. The City appeals to citizens to keep this critical part of Peoria's transportation system accessible by clearing sidewalks, especially for children walking to/from school. State law protects property owners from any added liability if they shovel their sidewalks. Residents should shovel snow into the yard, not the street. Putting snow into the street is against the law because it causes dangerously slippery conditions for pedestrians and motorists, including service and emergency vehicles as well as school busses. City crews try to avoid putting large piles of snow in front of driveways; however, this is not always possible. Residents are asked to clear snow from around fire hydrants and meters to aid firefighters and meter readers.

TIP: *To avoid having to "double shovel," citizens may want to wait until after their street has been plowed before clearing their driveway. Also, "shovel right." When facing the street, residents should shovel snow to their right to minimize the windrow when plows come through.*

City Ordinance No. 17268 states all commercial property owners - including public and private schools, hospitals, and churches - must remove snow from sidewalks on the public right-of-way adjacent to their respective business within 24 hours after the snow *stops falling*, when accumulations are less than 6 inches, and within 36 hours after 6 or more inches of snow accumulates. If another snow event occurs, the clock is reset to the end of the most recent snowfall. Snow must be removed from the sidewalk to a minimum of 4-feet wide to accommodate wheelchairs, strollers and pedestrians.

< 6 inches of snow = within 24 hours
≥ 6 inches of snow = with 36 hours

Noncompliance with this City Ordinance (Ord. No. 17268) could result in a civil penalty of \$50.00 for sidewalks less than 200 linear feet in length, or \$100.00 for sidewalks longer than 200 feet. The City may remove the snow or ice on private property when the owner fails to comply within the designated time period, and charge the cost to the property owner.

9. Who clears OTHER PROPERTY?

The City is responsible for clearing snow from all municipal parking lots and around City buildings. Property owners are responsible for clearing commercial parking lots. Pushing and storing snow into City streets is prohibited by law. Putting snow into the street is against the law because it causes dangerously slippery conditions for pedestrians and motorists, including service and emergency vehicles as well as school busses. City Code reads as follows:

Chapter 26 STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES
Article I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 26-25. Sweeping, shoveling, etc., snow, ice, etc., upon public ways. No person shall sweep, shovel, pile, or cause to be swept, shoveled or piled, any snow, ice or other waste upon any of the streets, avenues, alleys, sidewalks or other public ways of the city.

The Police Department shall be requested to make every effort to strictly enforce the above section.

10. How do I learn the STATUS OF SNOW PLOWING efforts?

For the latest information on the status of snow plowing efforts, watch the informational crawl on cable Channel 22 or your local T.V. stations or listen to local radio stations, check the City's website at www.peoriagov.org, contact your Neighborhood Association or call Public Works at 494-8830 for a current, automated recording.

11. Are there PARKING RESTRICTIONS during winter storms?

During winter storms, parked vehicles must be moved from marked snow routes. Violators will be ticketed and may be towed. Motorists who have parked their vehicles on non-routed streets are encouraged to move their vehicles off-street to facilitate plowing efforts.

12. What do the posted SNOW ROUTE SIGNS mean?

In 1979, the City Council passed an ordinance banning parking on designated Snow Routes when two inches (2") of snow have fallen and one or more inches are forecasted to fall. The Snow Routes were updated in 1999, 2009, 2015 and again in 2018.

13. Why just TWO (2") INCHES?

During heavy snowfalls, when there are two inches (2") of snow on the ground, another four (4") or six inches (6") can accumulate before the plow trucks are able to complete their routes from beginning to end. So, while there may only be two inches (2") of fallen snow at the time of a parking ban, there may be six (6") or eight inches (8") of accumulation on portions of the routes by the time the plow trucks finish clearing the streets.

14. Where can people PARK if they have no driveway or have multiple vehicles?

Cars must be moved from streets designated as Snow Routes when conditions warrant. Some citizens may be able to park on a side street fairly close to their residence; some may have to travel greater distances to find available parking.

15. What will happen if I don't move my car from a DESIGNATED SNOW ROUTE?

The ordinance provides that any vehicle parked, abandoned or stalled on a street in violation of the Snow Route parking ban will receive a \$50.00 ticket. The vehicle may be towed to a nearby side street or to a designated impoundment area. If the vehicle is towed to an impoundment area, the owner will also be required to pay the towage or impoundment costs.

16. If my car is TOWED, where can I pick it up?

The Police Department will have a record of all towed vehicles. For information on such vehicles, contact the Police Department's non-emergency line 309/494-8300.

17. Why are some streets posted with "NO PARKING ANYTIME" also have "SNOW ROUTE-NO PARKING" signs posted?

Signs are posted to designate Snow Routes. The "No Parking" language on the sign standardizes our inventory of Snow Route signs and reinforces the "No Parking Anytime" signs. In addition, the parking ban ordinance during a snowstorm includes provisions that prohibit cars from being abandoned on these streets due to mechanical or battery failure or running out of fuel. It also requires the operator of a stalled vehicle to have the vehicle immediately towed or pushed off the posted street.

18. What happens if a storm occurs during RUSH HOUR?

Occasionally, snowstorms will hit just as rush hour is beginning, causing delays for both plowing crews and motorists. Streets are given priority based on traffic volume, speed limit and potential safety concerns. Main thoroughfares (classified as arterials), hills and bridges are always first as well as streets adjacent to schools and accessing hospitals. Crews then begin working on residential streets including main streets through subdivisions, side streets and cul-de-sacs.

In a City-wide plowing effort, City crews will plow one path (in/out) through all roadways to allow residents mobility as early as is practical in a storm. Crews return later to finish pushing the snow back curb to curb to clear storm inlets.

When alley mobility needs City assistance, alleys will be prioritized as follows: Priority 1: alleys which serve as the only access to a property (no street access) and Priority 2:

alleys which serve as secondary access to a property. Priority 1 alleys will be opened as non-routed streets are being plowed. As Priority 1 alleys are opened, work on Priority 2 alleys will begin.

XII. ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

Citizens who cannot remove their vehicles due to age or physical impairment are encouraged to utilize relatives, neighbors, neighborhood associations and church members.

Other services are provided by calling any of the listed agencies below as needed:

EMERGENCY HOUSING FOR WEATHER-RELATED EVENTS

American Red Cross

311 W. John H. Gwynn, Jr. Avenue

309/677-7272 (8:00a.m. – 4:30p.m. Monday – Friday)

844/319-6560 After-hours

Press “1” for Emergency Services

309/657-0191 Julie Learned, Disaster Program Coordinator

FEEDING PROGRAM (11:30a.m. – 1:00p.m. Monday – Friday)

Salvation Army

414 NE Jefferson

309/655-7272 (24 hours/day)

24-HOUR WARMING CENTER OR EMERGENCY SHELTER

Dream Center of Peoria

714 Hamilton Blvd.

309/676-3000

www.dreamcenterpeoria.org

POST-STORM EMERGENCY SERVICES

Salvation Army
414 NE Jefferson

309/655-7272 (24 hours/day)

ASSISTANCE TO ANYONE WITH AIDS/HIV AND THEIR FAMILIES









Central Illinois Friends, Inc.
120 NE Glen Oak Avenue

309/671-2144

Revised 12.7.2018

City of Peoria

XIII. SNOW ROUTE MAPS

Legend	
Snow_Route	
	Future Street
	Maintained By Other Agency
	Maintained By Peoria County
	Maintained By Private Entity
	Maintained By State of Illinois
	Park District
	Primary Snow Routes
	Residential Street/Off Route