



## **City of Wilmington Winter Snow / Ice Accumulation Clearance Guidelines**

The City of Wilmington wants to remind residents of Wilmington snow removal policies and actions for the winter season. Please remember that every Snow / Ice event is different and that this is a *general* guideline... so please take caution during any snow / ice storm if you need to be driving on the roadways. If it is at all possible, please remain home during the time when it is snowing or freezing rain. The City of Wilmington Public Works Department will be plowing / salting to combat any storm, however, there will be hazardous conditions until all the City's thoroughfares have been treated.

It is unavoidable for City of Wilmington snow plows to not push snow on sidewalks at all intersection corners during cleanup operations. *It shall be the responsibility of the adjacent residential / business owner to remove these snow berms from the corners of intersections and place snow into the parkway (not back into the street).*

Residents can assist Public Works in their efforts by doing the following:

- Residents shall not park on the street during a snow event. ***On-street parking is prohibited by City Ordinance Section 76.01, for any snowfall accumulations of 1 inch or more.***
- Commercial property owners are responsible for plowing commercial parking lots, driveways, and public sidewalks adjoining their businesses.
- Residential property owners are responsible for shoveling or plowing public sidewalks adjoining their homes. This ensures safety for pedestrian and for children walking to school.
- Shovel snow from driveways into the parkway and not into the street. This will help to avoid creating dangerously slippery conditions for both motorists and pedestrians. ***Shoveling snow into the street is a city code violation. (Chapter 92.24)***
- Shovel out fire hydrants that are in or around your property. This will assist Fire Fighting Crews in emergent situations.
- Uncover your mailbox and create a path for postal vehicles to pull up to mailboxes.
- Help your neighbors. For many residents, age and/or medical conditions make it difficult to shovel snow without risking their health.

### **During Snowfall Events / Ice Accumulations**

The City of Wilmington Public Works Department will mobilize its crews when there is a measurable accumulation of snowfall or if the winter mix is causing a hazardous driving situation, such as freezing rain. The Public Works Department is responsible for over 250 plow miles of roadway with a fleet of 7 snow plow trucks and a crew of 5 employees. Wilmington has a goal of clearing all streets within twenty-four (24) hours **after** the snow stops falling (Heavier snows and/or blowing snow often take longer to clear). For Ice, Public Works will be out prior to events and/or during ice events to help with road safety.

The City of Wilmington crews plow most streets within the City limits, however there are a number of roads that are the responsibility of other Governmental agencies. For example, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) plows Route 102 (S. Water Street) and Route 53 (Baltimore Street). Will County Department of Transportation plows West River Road., Stripe Mine Road and North River Road.

**STREET PLOWING / SALTING OPERATIONS ARE PERFORMED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER DURING SNOW FALL / ICE ACCUMULATIONS:**

1. Major Arterials, school routes, hills, rail road crossings, and the bridges.
2. Subdivision mains and collector streets.
3. (Ice) All remaining subdivision streets.
4. (Ice) Cul-de-sacs and dead ends.
5. (Ice) Alleys and City parking lots.

**STREET PLOWING OPERATIONS ARE PERFORMED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER AFTER SNOW and/or BLOWING SNOW STOPS:**

1. Major Arterials, school routes, hills, rail road crossings, and the bridges.
2. Subdivision mains and collector streets.
3. All remaining subdivision streets.
4. Cul-de-sacs and dead ends.
5. Alleys and City parking lots.
6. Areas where parked vehicles have been moved.

**NOTE:** *November 1 through April 1, the City of Wilmington Snow Parking Ban will be in effect (Chapter 76.01 & 76.09).* *Wilmington Police will have the option of issuing a parking ticket and/or having the vehicle towed. All towing and storage costs will be the responsibility of the vehicle owner.*

**Ordinance Revising Parking During and After Snowfalls**

Whenever possible, please park all vehicles in your driveways during a snow event to help facilitate the safe removal of snow on your street. When a measurable snow event meets **2 inches in accumulation**, the Snow Parking Ban is put into effect. *All vehicles must be moved off of public streets until the City of Wilmington's snow plow trucks have had a chance to plow the snow on the street.*

**HELPFUL HINTS:**

**DRIVEWAYS:** When plowing is required, snow “berms” are unavoidably created across driveways. The plow operators do not have control over the wind-row of snow coming off the edge of the blade. Public Works Crews try to keep this problem to a minimum, so *residents are reminded that **shoveling or plowing snow into the street is strictly prohibited by local ordinance (Chapter 92.24).*** To minimize the problem of the snowplow covering your driveway with snow after you have just shoveled it, you should shovel snow into the yard or parkway instead of the street. This will eliminate the “berm” reoccurring when the plows come back through.

**PRIVATE SNOW PLOWING:** Property owners should be aware that placing, dumping, or pushing snow onto City streets or right-of-ways from adjacent properties is **prohibited by City of Wilmington Ordinance (Chapter 92.24).**

**SIDEWALKS:** The City does not clear sidewalks in residential or business neighborhoods and applauds citizens and proprietors for clearing sidewalks to help their neighbors and customers weather the storm. Sidewalks should be cleared to the pavement at least one shovel's width within 24 hours after a snowfall event. This makes it easier for children to walk to school or the bus stop. **Please lend a hand to elderly or disabled neighbors who cannot clear their own sidewalks, porches, and steps.**

**CHEMICALS USED IN SNOW REMOVAL:** The City of Wilmington utilizes rock salt in the fight against snow accumulation and freezing on the roadways. This material is effective down to a temperature of ten degrees (10) Fahrenheit.

**MAILBOXES:** The City of Wilmington Public Works Crew will make every effort to clear the roads from curb to curb where cars are not parked on the street. In many cases with wet snow, the snow or plow blade may damage / remove mailboxes that are set close to the street. This is unavoidable. Mailbox damage complaints will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

**NOTE:** *The City of Wilmington will not reimburse for any mailbox damage on improperly located mailboxes.* (The standard and accepted mailbox placement should be 42 inches measured from the ground surface to the bottom of the mailbox. The mailbox should be located so that the front of the box is no closer than 6 inches from the back of curb. Any questions regarding the placement of mailboxes should be directed to the Wilmington Post Office at 800-275-8777).

**REMINDER:**

The residents of Wilmington are asked to be patient and recognize that during the winter months, there may be some minor inconvenience. Snow / Ice operations are labor intensive and equipment does break down on occasion. Snow / Ice removal crews work long hours to keep the streets clear and safe. We ask for everyone's cooperation to help keep our streets safe.