

CITY OF POLSON SNOW REMOVAL POLICY

A primary system of unmarked snow routes has been established for effective snow removal on the collector and arterial system. The snow routes are divided into first priority and second priority routes.

FIRST PRIORITY:

Any hour service by the street dept. for first priority snow routes.

SECOND PRIORITY:

To receive immediate attention following plowing of first priority routes.

OTHER RESIDENTIAL STREETS:

Plowed within 48 hours of the end of snowfall in excess of 3 inches. Less than 3 inches will not be plowed from residential streets unless drifting occurs.

ALLEYS:

Alleys will not be plowed except to maintain city services.

SANDING/ICE CONTROL:

Use of street sanding abrasives and chemicals will be dictated by specific weather and road conditions of each snow event. Street sanding abrasives and Magnesium Chloride solution shall be used sparingly and only when application will produce a proven result. Sanding abrasives will generally be used on the outer streets in the city. Magnesium Chloride will be used in the business district unless it becomes ineffective.

PRIVATE STREETS:

City plows are not responsible for clearing private driveways or snow from private property.

PLOWING PRIVATE PROPERTY:

It is strictly forbidden for a city plow to clear snow or ice from private property unless it must be done to allow emergency vehicle access.

Pushing snow from private property into public streets or sidewalks is also prohibited by the City Code section.

RESIDENTS SNOW REMOVAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

Effective removal and plowing of snow on city streets is a cooperative effort of both the city street crew and local residents. The city depends on individuals to remove the plowed berms in front of driveways or cars. Individuals are required to place their shoveled/plowed snow on their own property and not in the street. Your cooperation helps keep the streets safe for travel.

The city asks that all residents comply with Polson City Code (Ordinance No. 569), which prohibits a private individual from depositing snow upon public streets or sidewalks. The Ordinance states:

ORDINANCE NO. 569

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT PRIVATE PARTIES FROM DEPOSITING SNOW ACCUMULATIONS IN PUBLIC STREETS AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS:

WHEREAS, it appears that numerous private property owners within the City of Polson routinely plow snow from their private property and into public street; and

WHEREAS, the practice of plowing snow from private property in public streets increases the time, effort, and expense required by employees of the City of Polson to render the streets safe for passage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Polson desires hereby to make it unlawful for private persons to plow, push, or throw snow accumulations from private property into the public streets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY
COUNCIL OF CITY OF POLSON:

1. No person shall plow, push, or other wise cause snow accumulations on private property to be placed in any public street in the City of Polson
2. Snow accumulations on public sidewalks may be shoveled into the gutter directly contiguous to the sidewalk.
3. Persons violating Paragraph 1 of this ordinance shall be charged with a violation of the Municipal Code in the manner provided in the code, and the penalty upon conviction shall be the costs incurred by the City of Polson in removing the snow placed into the public way by the violator.
4. Any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

FIRST READING: February 22, 2000

SECOND READING: March 6, 2000

NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved that the subject Ordinance shall become effective on the 6th day of April, 2000

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6TH day of March, 2000.

The City recognizes that snow plowing may block some driveways and may leave berms around parked cars. We understand that clearing berms is inconvenient, but it is unfortunately, a byproduct of snow plowing and clearing streets.

PLEASE NOTE: Plow operators will attempt to clear snow from curb to curb. When access to the curb line is blocked by any parked car, the vehicle owner should expect snow to accumulate around the parked car as the plow passes the vehicle. City crews will try to avoid

plowing snow against a parked vehicle. However, should this happen, they (city crew) will not be able to assist in removing the piled snow.

AIR QUALITY

The snow removal plan is written in regard to air quality considerations. The particulate matter generated from sanding material is a major source of winter air pollution and violations of the EPA Air Quality Standards. The snow removal plan is intended to reduce the street sanding contribution to particulate matter in the air. In addition to using sand, the street dept. utilizes a chemical deicer in the down town area and on the main street coming into town for controlling ice and snow conditions as a means of reducing sanding material. Deicer material is magnesium chloride with a rust inhibitor added that has to meet water quality standard. Deicers reduce the indirect costs of winter snow control by reducing sand cleanup in the spring while helping to keep roads clear of packed snow and ice.

WINTER STREET CLEANING

Winter street cleaning will only occur when the temperature rises above 40 degrees and the streets are dry. The street cleaning will only happen in the down town area and the areas of the heavy sanded areas.