GOALS OF THE CITY’S SNOW REMOVAL

The primary goals of the City's Snow Removal and Ice Control Plan 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.

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 within the City that are the responsibility of other local government agencies.

When does the City begin plowing?
The City of Peoria begins an all-out plowing effort whenever two (2") inches of snow has accumulated within an 18-hour period after the event has ended. This goal may not be met when there are high winds or in an accumulation of greater than eight inches (8") which will require additional time to clear.

Does the City have a “bare pavement” policy?
The City of Peoria does not have a "bare pavement" policy as this would dramatically increase costs and has negative environmental impacts. Matching the level of service to vehicular volumes reduces salt usage while providing high quality winter travel.

Which streets are plowed first?
The City has established a priority plowing system for our 465 center lane miles so that main traffic routes, such as arterials and collectors, are plowed first. Crews always attempt to clear these routes before rush hour.

- **Priority One** — Main thoroughfares, classified as arterials, hills and bridges are always plowed first.
- **Priority Two** — Crews work on streets, including main streets through subdivisions, roads that link arterials and streets with schools, and selected streets serving hospitals.
- **Priority Three** — When crews complete the first two plowing operations, they move on to streets not on snow routes, such as minor residential roads, side streets, and cul-de-sacs.

In a Citywide plowing effort, City crews will plow one path (in/out) through every **Priority Three** roadway 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.

Plowing cul-de-sacs
- The City of Peoria has 388 cul-de-sacs and 279 dead-end streets.
- It takes about 35 minutes to clear a cul-de-sac of snow—which is eight times longer than it takes to plow a street of the same size.

Does the City plow alleys?
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 garages and fences. Wind rows from plowing can also make it difficult to place trash cans for collection and minimize access from the alley to properties. Typically, alleys are cleared after residential plowing is completed.

Who clears sidewalks and driveways?
Both are the responsibility of residents and property owners.
Resident should:
- Shovel snow into the yard, not onto the street. Putting snow onto the street is against the law because it causes dangerously slippery conditions for both motorists and pedestrians.
- Avoid double shoveling by waiting until after your street has been plowed to clear your driveway.
- Clear snow around fire hydrants to aid firefighters; around meters to aid meter readers and around mailboxes to aid postal carriers.
- Residents are encouraged to shovel sidewalks so children have a safe walkway to school and pedestrians can walk through the community.

Who clears other property?
- The City is responsible for all municipal parking lots and around City buildings.
- Property owners are responsible for clearing commercial parking lots.

Do all streets get salted?
- All main thoroughfares and primary residential streets may be salted in response to snow or ice.
- Salt is not applied on cul-de-sacs and other residential streets because of the minimal amount of traffic generated.

Are there parking restrictions during winter storms?
- During winter storms, parked vehicles must be moved from marked snow routes. Violators may be ticketed and towed. Tickets average $250.
- City of Peoria officials will decide whether it is necessary to implement additional residential parking restrictions.

Did you know?
- Higher salt application is detrimental to the environment and to automobile bodies.
- State law protects property owners from any added liability if they shovel their sidewalks
ARE YOU PREPARED?

Do you have an emergency supply kit at home and in your car? Severe winter weather can cause widespread power outages and dangerous driving conditions. With an emergency supply kit at home and in the car, you'll be prepared for the winter months. A home supply kit should be stocked with items to stay safe for at least three days. An emergency preparedness kit in a vehicle will help travelers stay safe and warm until help arrives.

Residents of the City of Peoria and your relatives are encouraged to participate in Winter Storm Preparedness by preparing for winter hazards now. For more information on Winter Storm Preparedness Month, please call City of Peoria Fire Department Office of Emergency Management (OEM) at 494-8077 or visit www.ready.illinois.gov

How do I learn the status of snow plowing efforts?
For the latest information on the status of snow plowing efforts, call Public Works at (309) 494-8850.

What should I do in an emergency? During a heavy snowfall, when emergencies services are needed, Call 911.

For non-emergency non-medically related transportation, call the Police Department at (309) 494-8300.

Your cooperation helps to ensure public safety during heavy snowfalls.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency 911
Non-Emergency Transportation 309/494-8300
(medically-related)
Public Works Information 309/494-8850
Storm Updates (recording) 309/494-8830
State Police (Road Conditions) 1-800/452-4368