



FAQ

Who is responsible for, and when should snow be removed from my sidewalk after a snow event?

Property owners are responsible to clear snow and ice from sidewalks within 10 hours of the cessation of a snowfall event and keep the sidewalks cleared thereafter. Removing snow from sidewalks helps protect public safety and reduces property owner liability to accidents that may happen on the sidewalk adjacent to their home.



FAQ

What happens if I don't clean my sidewalk after a snow event?

While the city's ordinance calls for snow and ice to be cleared within 10 hours of the cessation of a snow and ice event, staff is not out actively seeking property owners to pursue enforcement on. In general staff is not out inspecting any sidewalks for snow removal

until 2 days after an event, unless we receive a complaint. Primary areas of focus for inspection first are: arterial streets, along bus routes where pedestrian traffic is often present, within three blocks of schools, and in Downtown Davenport.

Please know neighbors are reporting. On average, we receive 50 complaints, each event, from neighbors of individuals who haven't or rarely shovel their snow. Shoveling your sidewalk reduces your liability and, in general, is just the right thing to do. It is not just students and transit patrons that walk, people walk for health and often for their pet's health. You can report a sidewalk that has not been cleared at www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/pwrs.

Before you report a sidewalk that hasn't been shoveled, consider doing a good turn and shoveling or snow blowing the sidewalk. You never know if the reason the sidewalk hasn't been cleared is because the property owner is physically unable to remove the snow or if other conditions prevented the owner from shoveling.





FAQ

I just cleaned my sidewalks and driveway and the city came by and pushed snow back onto my sidewalks and plowed my driveway shut. Why does the city do this?

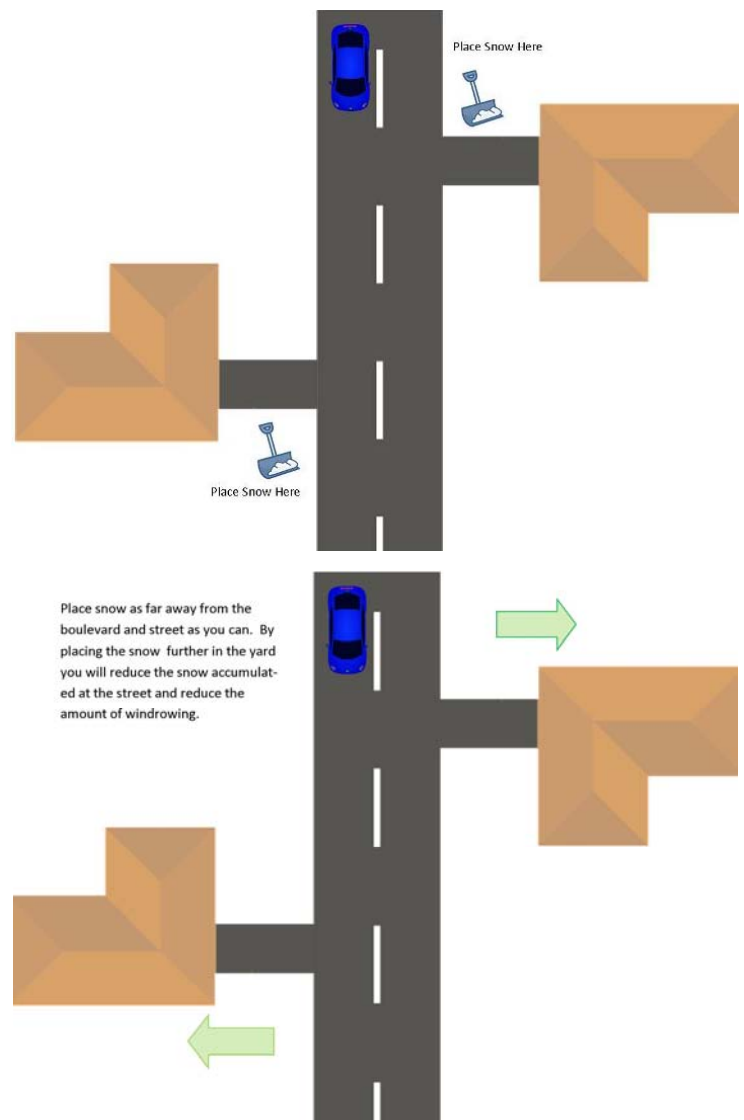
Windrowing, or plowing driveways shut and pushing snow back onto sidewalks is an unfortunate consequence of plowing any street. Crews do attempt to avoid pushing snow removed from streets onto sidewalks, but this is often unavoidable. Snow cleared from streets must go somewhere.

The extent of windrowing is dependent on the magnitude of the event and any given area's geography, street width, boulevard width, vehicular parking and other conditions, such as cul-de-sacs, that affect the area being plowed.

Property owners, whose sidewalks become recovered as a result of windrowing, should make at least one pass through the middle of the sidewalk in order to provide sufficient surface for pedestrian traffic. In general the city will not cite property owners who have attempted to clear their sidewalk of snow and ice.

Tips to avoid the impacts of snow cleared from streets and pushed to the curb.

- To minimize the impacts of windrowing along driveways property owners should place snow removed with the flow of traffic. See example top/right.
- You should also consider throwing snow cleared as far away (further into your yard) from the street, boulevard and driveway. This will reduce the amount of snow accumulated at the street and the amount of windrow/throwing back onto shoveled areas. See example to right.



Winter brings with it a myriad of issues, along with some inconveniences. We are all in this together, and if we all work together we can enjoy all of the other things winter brings.