



Snowplowing Policy Statement City of Pine Springs, MN

1. Introduction

The City of Pine Springs, Minnesota, finds that it is in the best interest of the residents for the City to assume basic responsibility for control of snow and ice on city streets. Reasonable ice and snow control is necessary for routine travel and emergency services. The city will attempt to provide such control in a safe and cost-effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel, and environmental concerns. The City will use private contractors to provide this service. This policy does not relieve the operator of private vehicles, pedestrians, property owners, residents and all others that may be using public streets, of their responsibility to act in a reasonable, prudent and cautious manner, given the prevailing street conditions.

2. When the City Starts Snow or Ice Control Operations

- a. The Street Superintendent will decide when to begin snow or ice control operations.
- b. The criteria for that decision are:
 - i. Snow accumulation of three (3) inches or at the discretion of the Street Superintendent;
 - ii. Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel;
 - iii. Icy conditions which seriously affect travel; and
 - iv. Time of snowfall in relationship to heavy use of streets.

3. How Snow Will Be Plowed

- a. In general, snow will be plowed to the boulevard so as to minimize traffic obstructions. In times of extreme snowfall, streets will not always immediately be able to be completely cleared of snow.
- b. In cul-de-sacs, the snowplow operator is to clear the snow from the driving area to maintain enough room for emergency vehicles and school buses to be able to turn around. If accumulation has surpassed this amount, see Snow Removal section below.

4. Snow Removal

The Street Superintendent will determine if and when snow will be removed from the area by truck. Snow removal operations will not commence until other snowplowing operations have been completed. The snow storage area will be located so as to minimize environmental problems.

5. Priorities and Schedule of Streets to be Plowed

- a. The city has classified city streets based on the street function, traffic volume and importance to the welfare of the community.
 - i. Warner Road and 62nd St. N. will be plowed first everything else will be secondary.
- b. Unforeseeable circumstances may cause delays in completing assigned plow routes.

6. Use of Sand, Salt, and Other Chemicals

- a. The city will use sand, salt, and other chemicals when there are hazardous ice or slippery conditions. The city is concerned about the effect of such chemicals on the environment and will limit its use for that reason and expects the residents to do the same.
- b. The use of salt is not permitted to be used to clear obstructed drainage ways or inlets. The buildup of salt and snow accumulation in/over the stormwater conveyance area must be physically removed to provide functional drainage.

7. Private Driveways

It is the responsibility of the resident and/or property owner to remove all accumulated snow from their driveway. Snow accumulated on a driveway may not be pushed into the street. This includes any snow plowed from public streets onto the driveway.

8. Damages

Damage to a mailbox or other residential property is a risk that snowplow operators face during their winter plowing requirements. The city will conduct a review of each mailbox damage claim to determine whether the city has any legal responsibility for the damage and, if so, to replace or provide reimbursement for the mailbox. If the city, in its discretion, determines that reimbursement is appropriate, the city may provide reimbursement up to \$50 if deemed liable.

9. Complaint Procedure

- a. Emergency complaints will be handled in an expeditious manner as resources are available. Please contact 911 or the Mayor.
- b. Non-emergency complaints can be e-mailed to the City clerk. Service requests will be forwarded to the contractor for scheduling.

10. Effective Date

This policy statement shall be declared to be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

Adopted by the unanimous vote of the City Council of the City of Pine Springs, Washington County, Minnesota, this 8th day of August, 2023.



 Mayor

Attest: 

 City Administrator

Revision History

Ver.	Changes	Date Changed
1.0	Adopted by City Council motion 23-51	Aug 8, 2023