

**2020/2021 Snow Removal Policy
For the
City of Emmetsburg**

First day after a 2 inch or more snowfall - All streets will be opened for traffic in the following order: Emergency Routes (maintained during the event) for ambulance, fire, and police, Level “A” routes: Main thoroughfares that run from one end of town to the other (such as Grand, Lawler, etc.) also downtown side streets, Hospital and school streets. Level “B” routes: All residential streets. Level “C” routes: Alleys and less traveled streets throughout town.

After each snow event and when the wind and snow has subsided - Snow will be removed from the Downtown Business District, the city will not haul snow from privately owned parking areas. **All downtown sidewalks need to be cleared past the curb and the snow shall remain in the wind row (Do not pile any snow in piles on the street or public parking spaces).** Please take extra care when removing snow around the ADA approaches to prevent damaging them (they are made of a composite material that could be easily damaged). No parking in Business District after 11:00PM. **Iowa Law and City Code states it is unlawful for any person to place ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley.**

Effectively immediately, all commercial contractors that remove snow will be required to complete a registration form at City Hall. There is no fee for this registration, but it will require proof of insurance. The general liability limits will need to be at least three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) per person, five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per occurrence, and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for property damage during the term of the snow removal permit. The contractor will also be provided a copy of the snow removal policy. This will be a yearly registration, renewed by September 30th each year. Those exempt from this registration are those operating walk-behind snowblowers and those using shovels.

135.11 DUMPING OF SNOW, It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2])

136.03 REMOVAL OF SNOW, ICE AND ACCUMULATIONS. It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow, ice and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice or accumulations within a reasonable time, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2b & e])

136.04 RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE. It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to maintain in a safe and hazard-free condition any sidewalk outside the lot and property lines and inside the curb lines or traveled portion of the public street. (**Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2c]**)

Sanding and treating streets, will be done in same order giving hills and intersections priority.

City officials advise that when the streets are icy, the hills cannot be sanded enough to be safe at all times. They would request that residents use an alternative route if possible when the streets are icy.

The City also requests no piling of snow in the right of way that would obstruct the view of motorists. The adjacent property owner will be responsible to remove all obstructions in a timely manner or be charged for the removal. The City cannot guarantee that every intersection can be cleared of piled snow to the extent that visibility will be unobstructed and so the motorist shall proceed with caution into intersections in a safe manner.

Vehicles should be kept off the streets whenever possible to allow the crews to do the best job they can. Iowa Law and City Code states that no person shall park, or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley or City owned off street parking area during snow removal operations unless the snow has been removed or plowed from the said street, alley or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall. Violators will be ticketed and towed. City Code prohibits parking on any City Street between 2:00AM and 6:00 AM. All City Parking lots have a 48 hour parking limit.

No snow removal equipment is allowed on downtown sidewalks using chains for traction. Damage to sidewalks in the downtown area is the responsibility of the snow removal contractor and/or property owner.

The City will appreciate everyone's cooperation during this winter season!