



**VILLAGE OF MILFORD
WINTER MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS**

Adopted by Village Council: January 3, 2022

The purpose of this document is to outline the general standards for winter maintenance operations in the Village of Milford. Circumstances unique to a particular storm may warrant adjustments to this plan by the Village administration.

Winter maintenance operations typically begin either by planned staffing responses due to forecasted storms or from the Milford Police Department notifying the Village Department of Public Services of worsening road conditions.

It is the goal of the Village to have all major roads, residential streets, and Civic Center & downtown parking lots cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of a storm ending and within 48 hours for sidewalks and other municipal parking lots.

Winter On-Street Parking Ban

To improve snow removal in the Village of Milford, Village Council has adopted a traffic control order prohibiting parking on any Village street between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. during the months of December, January and February. During this designated time, it is a civil infraction to park a vehicle or allow it to remain parked on any Village street. Illegally parked vehicles will be ticketed and may be towed. Should the vehicle be towed, the registered owner of the vehicle will be responsible for any towing costs incurred.

Reference Traffic Control Order No 007-93, dated November 12, 1993

Routing Priority

The Department of Public Services reviews routing priority annually. When changes of magnitude are made, Village Council concurrence of the changes is requested.

Top priority is given to high traffic streets and intersections. In certain instances, residential streets are included in a higher priority classification due to particular problems caused by the nature of the terrain, or use of the street. There are also instances where lower priority streets are used to access major streets or to speed up "turn-a-round" time for equipment.

Areas around schools receive higher priority than the streets might otherwise warrant in order to improve safety of traveling to and from the schools.

Street Priority

First priority before and during winter storms is aimed at reducing the accumulation of snow on the streets. Major streets are plowed and salted first. If time and conditions permit, streets with curves or steep grades and intersections in residential neighborhoods are then salted. As conditions worsen, and salt become less effective or inadequate, plowing, on a priority similar to that of salting, is started.

Under normal storm conditions, plowing begins when snow depth reaches three inches (3") or two inches (2") with continued moderate to heavy snowfall. Intensity and the forecast duration of the storm have a major effect on this determination. Residential streets are plowed when snow depth exceeds three inches (3") or when conditions dictate plowing.

Generally, residential streets will be plowed during the early morning hours, when the parking of vehicles in the street is prohibited. Residents are reminded to keep vehicles parked off of the street until all snow has been removed.

Please do not shovel snow from your property or sidewalks into the street or onto someone else's property.

Major Storms

During storms in which significant snowfall (1 inch of snow or more, per hour) is forecast, the priority for plowing operations will be on keeping major roads, steep grades, curves, and intersections as safe as possible. During this time, residential streets may only have a single lane plowed to maintain access for emergency vehicles. Once the heavy snowfall has stopped, snow removal operations will resume as outlined in the above sections.

Curbing

In the course of plowing operations on residential streets, "curbing" is one of the major complaints received by the Department of Public Services. Residents often have their driveways shoveled out prior to plowing of residential streets resulting in snowplows depositing snow in their driveways. Although it is unfortunate that this occurs, there is no alternative. It is a necessary part of the process of providing safe, snow free streets for their entire width and open storm drains to take water from melting snow in order to prevent flooding and freezing on the road.

Avoid the "Second Shovel"

People can play a part in ensuring the ends of their driveways remain clear of snow even after their local snowplow comes through. Shoveling a "corner" of the right-of-way free of snow in the area several feet before the driveway will help keep that same snow from being pushed into the driveway in an icy, heavy pile. Clearing an area large enough to hold the snow coming off the plow may help reduce the "second shovel."



Downtown Milford Snow Removal

When snow depth reaches three inches (3") in Downtown Milford, snow is plowed to the center of the street, in preparation for hauling to one of several dump sites. Hauling snow from Downtown Milford begins when storm conditions abate, and following completion of the initial plowing and salting operations on all major streets. It may be conducted at the same time other snow removal activities are ongoing when necessary and conditions require advanced removal.

The hauling process is normally started in the early morning hours prior to traffic build-up and the need for parking spaces presents itself. The goal of the haul-out project is to have all snow on Main Street windrowed to the center of Main Street and removed before 9:00 AM so long as conditions permit. Prior to hauling the snow away, a loader is used to cut passageways through the center windrows as needed to allow access to various driveways in Downtown Milford. It also allows safer vehicle and pedestrian movement in the area.

In addition to Main Street in Downtown Milford, snow is also hauled from the Village maintained parking lots. The snow is plowed and piled up in designated areas of the parking lot, and is then hauled away when time allows unless it presents an immediate hazard.

Sidewalk Clearing

Sidewalks adjacent to Village parks and other properties are cleared by staff from the Department of Public Services as quickly as possible following a storm and based upon the availability of staff and equipment. Priority is placed upon those sidewalks which are along school routes or provide access to municipal facilities.

Village ordinance requires all property owners or occupants of property fronting upon a sidewalk shall keep such sidewalk free from all ice, snow, earth, and other substances. Failure to remove such substances within 48 hours shall result in a violation of this article. Property owners/occupants may be ticketed and the Village will have the sidewalk cleared by a private contractor and bill the property owner. This is to ensure the safety of the walking and shopping public.

Please lend a helping hand to any neighbors who may be physically or otherwise unable to clear sidewalks. Also, if able, please be sure to clear the ice and snow from around nearby storm drains and fire hydrants in your neighborhood. Your assistance with is greatly appreciated.

Please do not shovel snow from your property or sidewalks into the street or onto someone else's property.

Reference Village Code of Ordinances, Chapter 70 Article III Sec. 70-62