

City of Cle Elum
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City of Cle Elum Public Works Department

Snow Removal Priority Guidelines
January 1, 2020

Stated Goal:

The City of Cle Elum's Public Works Department snow removal policy goal is to efficiently and cost-effectively provide a safe and accessible transportation system during inclement weather and winter storm events.

General Considerations, Conditions, & Standards

- The snow removal performance standard is to complete the initial snow removal operations and have snow removed to a level for "safe" vehicle passage, curb to curb or edge of pavement to edge of pavement within 24 hours after the end of the snow event. The City snow removal standard is not to remove all ice and snow from the surface of the pavement or a "black asphalt" policy.
- Snow removal routes are based on a City established priority system.
- Emergencies and safety are the immediate priorities.
- Street snow removal to begin at an accumulation of 6 inches or more as determined by the Public Works Director or designee.
- Removal of the accumulation of "snow berm" or "snow wrinkle" created by the City snow plow operations at private driveway entrances is the responsibility of the individual homeowner or property owners.
- Sidewalks and Safe Route snow removal to begin at accumulations of 2 inches or more as determined by the PW Director or designee.
- Safe Route to School priority is reduced when school is not in session.
- City Municipal Code Chapter 12 requires homeowners and businesses to remove snow from the walks directly adjacent to their property in a timely manner.
- It shall be the policy of the City to consider cost, environmental impact of salt usage as well as safety of the motoring public when establishing application rates and location for application.
- City plow operators make every effort to avoid damage to areas adjoining the street. City residents and businesses should keep landscaping, garbage containers, recycling containers, etc. from obstructing right-of way.
- If a City plow or truck damages a fence or other item either through direct contact or due to the force of the snow rolling off the plow that is placed within the city right-of-way or within an easement, the fence or other item(s) will be repaired or replaced at the property owner's expense.

Priority 1 - Emergency & Street Collector Routes

- Priority 1 snow removal tasks are assigned during a major snow event to ensure major transportation routes are passable to allow emergency vehicle access within 2 blocks of residences and businesses.
- Routes included:
 - Cottage Ave Hill
 - Montgomery Ave Hill
 - Peoh Ave Hill
 - Oakes Ave Hill
 - Stafford Hill
 - Shober Way
 - Denny Ave Hill
 - Pine Street
 - Reed Street
 - Fire Department
 - Cle Elum Police Department

Sanding and De-icing Applications

- Applications to be made at the discretion and direction of the Public Works Director or designee.
- Intersections
- Inclines

Priority 2 - All City Streets/ Safe Route to School Walks (progress Path)/ Other

- City Streets and Alleys
Residential/ Downtown (non-preferential) (see attached snow removal map) Snow removal to curb or edge of asphalt where possible
- Safe Route to School Walks (when in session) to include:
Progress Path
- Others to include:
City Hall Walks
Library Walks
Park Walks and sidewalks

Priority 3 - As Needed and as Time Allows

- Snow piles (accumulation of plowed snow along curb lines and road edges). Removal to be done at a time designated by the Public Works Director or designee.
 - Wrinkle and General Clean-up of Residential & Business Streets
(Done on a "worst case" non- preferential basis) to prevent flooding during thaw.
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Questions or to report an issue

All questions or to report an issue should be logged on the cities website using the “report an issue” tab at the top of the home page.

If you have an immediate safety concern you can contact the Public Works Director @ 509-674-2262 Ext 106
