



## Winter Is Upon Us! Your Reference Guide to **SNOW & ICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**



### When snow and ice hits the Village of Barrington, the Public Works storm-fighting crews are ready for action.

In early fall, the Public Works Department begins review of its winter storm-fighting strategies and makes sure the snow-plowing equipment is ready. As a resident, you may wonder what you can expect the Village to do during a snow and ice event, and what you can do to minimize inconveniences caused by snow storms. Listed below are some frequently asked questions and answers.

#### Am I responsible for removing the snow on the sidewalk in front of my house/property?

Yes. The Village has an ordinance, No. 7-1-7 Snow and Ice Removal, which requires all property owners and/or tenants to remove snow from the sidewalk. This ordinance is in place to provide the public, and especially schoolchildren, with a safe place to walk. All efforts made by the public to improve public safety are greatly appreciated by your neighbors and the community. If you are unable to shovel snow due to health-related problems or you are an elderly resident, please contact the Public Works Department for a list of snow removal contractors.

#### What are the parking regulations during a snow event?

- >> When snow accumulations are over two inches (2"), parking is not permitted until snow removal operations have been completed on streets or parkways in neighborhoods outside of the Central Business District.
- >> When snow accumulations are over two inches (2"), parking is not permitted after 1:00 AM until snow removal operations have been completed on streets within the Central Business District.
- >> When snow accumulations reach one inch (1"), the Village asks that you park your car in your driveway.

#### What roads does the Village plow?

The Village clears snow and ice from over 100 miles of pavement within the Village limits. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) handles snow and ice removal on Route 14, Route 68, Ela Road, Barrington Road, portions of Lake-Cook Road, and Route 59.

#### When will Public Works crews plow my road?

All roads within the Village limits are given certain priorities. Each crew is directed to remove snow in their assigned district according to a priority rating. These teams do not deviate from that priority unless life safety conditions exist.

Highest priority is given to emergency access routes: Hough Street, Main Street, Dundee Avenue, Hillside Avenue, Eastern Avenue, and Lake Zurich Road. School routes are given the next priority. After these roads are clear, other residential streets are plowed, with cul-de-sacs and alleys being the last to be completed. During a snow and ice event, especially on longer duration storms, trucks will make several passes throughout each district during the storm event.

#### How long does it take the Village crews to clear snow and ice from the Village Streets?

The goal of the Public Works crews is to clear snow and ice from all Village streets within 24 hours after the snow has stopped falling.



### **How does the Village know that a storm is coming?**

A consulting meteorologist issues snow and ice warnings to the Public Works department, which evaluates and analyzes these reports and prepares crews as necessary. In addition, Public Works has access to up-to-date weather conditions via various Internet weather sites, including radar.

### **I saw a truck spraying some kind of liquid on the roadway. What are they doing?**

In an effort to provide the most cost-effective level of service, conserve salt, protect the environment, reduce costs, and utilize current technology, the Village has developed an "Anti-icing" Program. Anti-icing is the application of a mix of liquid chemicals to roadway surfaces in advance of a snow/ice event that assist in keeping the snow/ice from bonding to the roadway surface.

The goal is to help prevent the bonding of snow and ice to the pavement, allowing us to more effectively plow the snow from the roadway, which reduces the amount of de-icing materials (salt) needed and provide safer streets for the motoring public.

Numerous municipalities in Illinois and across the country are using this anti-icing technology with great success. When developing our anti-icing program, we consulted closely with several of these governmental agencies to ensure that we had thoroughly evaluated the pros and cons of this program.

### **Why does the Village use so much salt on the roads?**

The Village is always studying alternative methods of keeping snow and ice off of the road surface, but a mixture of salt and liquids has proven to be an effective and economical means of ice control. It is applied only in quantities recommended for the conditions that exist during each storm and is not used if conditions indicate that it will be ineffective.

### **A snowplow damaged the grass in the parkway. Will the Village repair the damage?**

Public Works crews will repair damage to the parkway/lawn only if caused by Village snowplows. Lawn damage will be repaired in early spring as the weather permits. Call Public Works to report damage.

### **A snowplow damaged my mailbox. Will the Village repair the damage?**

Public Works crews will repair damage to mailboxes physically struck by Village snowplows. Mailboxes will be repaired on a temporary basis and/or a temporary mailbox will be placed within 24 hours after notification; further information for permanent mailbox repairs will be mailed to residents. Call Public Works to report a damaged or downed mailbox.

### **Will I be able to get my car out of the commuter lot if it snows while I'm at work?**

When snow and ice events occur during business hours, Public Works crews plow and salt exit lanes from the commuter lots.

Parking is prohibited in all Village parking lots overnight for snow removal operations. Unfortunately, the crews cannot clear snow around individual cars. After cars have left the parking areas, remaining snow and ice is removed from the lots, typically during the overnight hours.

### **If we have an emergency during a storm, can emergency services get to my house?**

If you have a life safety emergency, call 911 immediately. An emergency vehicle and a snowplow, if necessary, will be dispatched to your address.

### **What can I do to help?**

- >> Please park your car in your driveway, not on the street, once snow starts to accumulate.
- >> Keep any fire hydrants near your property free of snow so they will be ready for use in an emergency.
- >> Keep your sidewalks free of ice and snow.
- >> On garbage days, please do not put your full containers in the street for pick up. Instead, place the containers at the end of your driveway. Please remove your trash cans from the curbside or driveway as soon as possible. During the winter months these containers tend to end up in the street, where they can get damaged by snowplows and hinder the snow removal process.
- >> Please do not shovel, snow blow or plow snow into the street. If crews have completed their work, the deposited snow can freeze causing a public safety hazard for vehicles and pedestrians.



## TIPS FOR SAFE SNOW SHOVELING

While shoveling snow can be good exercise, it can also be dangerous for optimistic shovelers who take on more than they can handle. The National Safety Council offers the following tips to help you get a handle on safe shoveling:

- >> Individuals over the age of 40, or those who are relatively inactive, should be especially careful.
- >> If you have a history of heart trouble, do not shovel without a doctor's permission.
- >> Do not shovel after eating or while smoking.
- >> Take it slow! Shoveling (like lifting weights) can raise your heart rate and blood pressure dramatically; so pace yourself. Be sure to stretch out and warm up before taking on the task.
- >> Shovel only fresh snow. Freshly fallen, powdery snow is easier to shovel than the wet, packed-down variety.
- >> Push the snow as you shovel. It's easier on your back than lifting the snow out of the way.
- >> Don't pick up too much at once. Use a small shovel, or fill only one-fourth or one-half of a large one.
- >> Lift with your legs bent, not your back. Keep your back straight. By bending and "sitting" into the movement, you'll keep your spine upright and less stressed. Your shoulders, torso and thighs can do the work for you.
- >> Do not work to the point of exhaustion. If you run out of breath, take a break. If you feel tightness in your chest, stop immediately.
- >> Dress warmly. Remember that extremities, such as the nose, ears, hands and feet, need extra attention during winter's cold. Wear a turtleneck sweater, cap, scarf, face protection, mittens, wool socks and waterproof boots.



Information and recommendations are compiled from sources believed to be reliable. The National Safety Council makes no guarantee as to and assumes no responsibility for the correctness, sufficiency or completeness of such information or recommendations. Other or additional safety measures may be required under particular circumstances.



**BARRINGTON**  
*Be Inspired.*

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Kate Duncan  
Emily Young  
Mike Moran

Board Meetings held 2nd & 4th  
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See inside: **SNOW & ICE REPORT 2020-21**

## Major Winter Storm Event? **QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE**

### Non-Emergency Village Phone Numbers

- >> Village Hall: (847) 304-3400
- >> Police Department: (847) 304-3300
- >> Fire Department: (847) 304-3600
- >> Public Works: (847) 381-7903

### IDOT Road Conditions/ Road Issues Contacts

- >> IDOT: (847) 705-4612
- >> IDOT-Road Issues:  
(800) 452-4368
- >> Illinois Roads Closed: (312) 368-4636
- >> Illinois Tollway: (800) 824-7277

For road conditions, reports,  
construction zones, rest areas and  
general travel information,  
go to: [getaroundillinois.com](http://getaroundillinois.com).

**Need up-to-date information?** Follow us on Facebook or go to [www.barrington-il.gov](http://www.barrington-il.gov).