BARRINGTON
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SNOW & ICE GUIDE

barrington-il.gov

A Reference Guide: **Snow & Ice Q&As**

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

Every fall, the Barrington Public Works Department begins a review of its winter storm-fighting strategies and conducts an inspection of all snowplowing equipment to ensure the Village is ready for the winter season. 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 snowstorms. Listed below are some frequently asked questions and answers (Q&As).

Q: Am I responsible for removing the snow on the sidewalk adjacent to my house/property?

A: 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 a private snow removal company for assistance.

Q: What are the parking regulations during a snow event?

A: When snow accumulations reach one inch (1"), the Village asks that cars be parked in driveways. 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. In the Central Business District, parking is not permitted after 1 a.m. until snow removal operations have been completed.

Q: What roads does the Village plow?

A: 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, and portions of Lake Cook Road, Lake Zurich Road, and Route 59.

Q: When will Public Works crews plow my road?

A: 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

Continued on next page

completed. During a snow and ice event, especially on longer duration storms, trucks will make several passes throughout each district. Teams do not deviate from these priorities unless life safety conditions exist.

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

A: 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.

Q: Why are trucks spraying liquid on the roadway?

A: 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 liquid mix to roadway surfaces in advance of a snow/ice event that assists 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 crews to more effectively plow the snow from the roadway, which reduces the amount of de-icing materials (salt) needed and provides safer streets for the motoring public.

Numerous municipalities in Illinois and across the country use anti-icing technology with great success. When developing our anti-icing program, the Village consulted closely with several of these governmental agencies.

Q: If parkway grass is damaged, will the Village repair it?

A: 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 at (847) 381-7903 to report damage. Most Village plow trucks are equipped with dashboard cameras, which can often show if a Village truck caused the damage.

Q: If my mailbox is damaged, will the Village repair it?

A: 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 at (847) 381-7903 to report a damaged or downed mailbox. Most Village plow trucks are equipped with dashboard cameras, which can often show if a Village truck caused the damage.

Q: What can residents do to help?

A: Please park your car in your driveway, not on the street, once snow begins 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.

Please do not put your full containers in the street for pick up on garbage day. Instead, place the containers at the end of your driveway or on the grass in your parkway. Once containers are emptied, please remove them from the area as soon as possible. During the winter months, these containers tend to end up in the street, where they can get damaged by snowplows, hinder the snow removal process, and create a safety hazard.

Please do not shovel, 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. This practice also violates the Village code and may result in a fine.

National Safety Council

TIPS FOR SAFE SNOW SHOVELING

While shoveling snow can be good exercise, it can also be dangerous for some shovelers who take on more than they can handle. The National Safety Council offers the following tips* for 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 your 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 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 is easier on your back than lifting the snow out of the way.
- Do not pick up too much snow at one time. 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 will 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 cold weather. Wear a turtleneck sweater, cap, scarf, face protection, mittens, wool socks and waterproof boots.
- Know the signs of a heart attack, and stop immediately and call 911 if you're experiencing any of them; every minute counts.

Did You Know?

Public Works departments are first responders, the same as Police and Fire.

This flag recognizes the critical role Public Works plays in emergency management efforts.

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.

MAJOR WINTER STORM EVENT
Quick Reference Guide

Important Village Phone Numbers

Non-Emergency

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

Emergency

- **Public Works: (847) 590-3491 (after hours)**
- **Police and Fire: 911**

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**

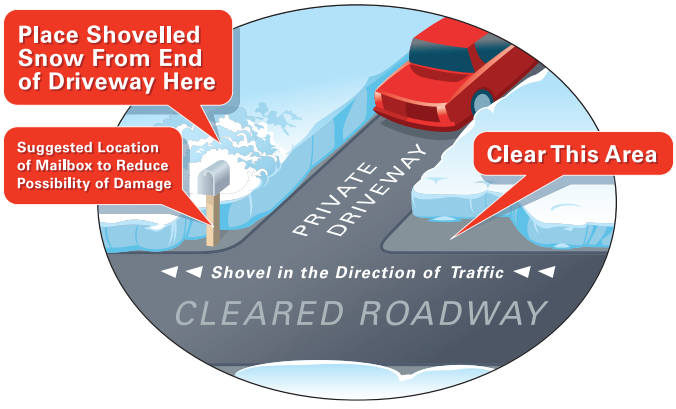
For road condititions, reports, construction zones, rest areas and general travel information, visit gettingaroundillinois.com

HELPFUL TIPS

Avoid the Second Shovel

Clear the area to the right of your driveway (as seen in diagram* below), giving the snow on the plow a place to go other than your driveway. This should help cut down on the amount of times you have to shovel your driveway in a major snowstorm.

Avoid the "Second Shovel"



*Credit: County Road Association of Michigan

Roadway Responsibilities

The Barrington Public Works Department clears snow and ice from over 50 centerline miles of roads within the Village limits and Village-owned parking and commuter lots. State and county crews handle snow and ice on Route 14 (from Hart Road to Ela Road), Route 59 (north of Providence Road and south of Hillside Avenue), Lake Zurich Road (north of Providence Road), Ela Road (both north and south of Lake Cook Road), Main Street (west of Hart Road and east of Ela Road), Barrington Road (south of Hillside Road) and Route 68.

Scan to view the map of Village Plowing Districts

Scan to view the map of streets not plowed by the Village

Visit barrington-il.gov for links to the Village's social media channels.

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