

# City of Pateros

## 2019-2020 Snow Response Plan



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## OVERVIEW

The City of Pateros’ Public Works Department is the primary responder during snow events. Using truck plows, backhoe, skid-steer, sanders and other equipment, the Department is responsible for snow removal and de-icing activities within the City.

Our goals include: improving safety for the traveling public, ensuring that emergency responders can reach our citizens, and keeping people and commerce moving throughout our community. This Snow Response Plan is designed to guide our operations and priorities during these events.

## WHAT IS A SNOW EVENT?

The snow season is defined as November to March. A Snow Event may be called at any time during these four months.

### Snow Events:

**Anti-icing:** In anticipation of a snow event the crew will begin anti-icing activities.

**Stage 1:** Will be declared when there is 2 inches of snow on the ground and 4 inches or more anticipated during the current snow event.

**Stage 2:** Will be declared when there is 6 inches of snow on the ground with more anticipated during the current snow event.

**Stage 3:** Will be declared when snow fall rate is so high that City crews cannot effectively plow Major Collector Streets and Residential Hill Routes.

A Snow Event declaration activates:

- Snow removal activities.
- Parking restrictions.
- Public notification.

## SNOW REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

The City is planning to implement the use of magnesium chloride as part of snow removal activities. So, when a Snow Event is anticipated, the City will anti-ice roads and sidewalks with magnesium chloride. This may include changing hours of operation in order to be prepared for an upcoming event. When a Snow Event is declared, the City will change its normal Public Works operations to respond to conditions according to the following guidelines. During these events, employees from Water, Wastewater, and Parks will respond with equipment. During a Stage 2 Snow Event, the City may utilize private contract crews to further expand snow removal efforts.

The City is planning to change the use of its primarily pieces of snow removal equipment. The old State truck is to be retired. The new dump truck will be put into service as a plow and for anti-icing. Its primary duties will include the Collector Streets and the Downtown Loop. The one-ton truck is used to plow and sand hills, and the skid-steer will be replaced by a bobcat side-by-side as a plow and for anti-icing of pedestrian walkways, and the backhoe will be continued to use for loading sand and removal of large mounds of snow.

**Anti-icing:** The City will begin a new program of anti-icing starting in 2019. The program is still in development, but the goal is to place magnesium chloride on the roads and sidewalks in advance of a snow event. This will make for easier snow removal and snow reduction.

**Stage 1:** The City will remove snow from Residential Hill Routes, Collector Streets, Downtown Loop, and School District Loop. Snow removal efforts will expand into all City streets, sidewalks, trails, and City parking lots. A full plowing of the City takes one day, with additional cleanup and snow removal the following day.

Because the City has limited crew and equipment, there will be times when plowing will take longer than a day, especially when crew is absent or equipment is being repaired. The following is a prioritized list of snow removal.

**Residential Hill Routes:** will be plowed and sanded. Watson Draw Road, Prior Drive, Edna Street, Pearl Street, Augusta Street, Park Street, Independence Street, Cemetery Road, Eveline Street, Florence Street, Craig Street, Mcalvey Dr., Stadium Way, Mansfield, North Street, and Kelly Street.

**Downtown Loop:** will be plowed: Lakeshore Drive, Commercial Avenue, and Dawson Street. The pedestrian mall, Pateros Mall, and sidewalks to be plowed.

**School District Loop:** Plowing to be coordinated with School District and all efforts will be given to have the School Loop plowed prior to School start times: North street between Warren and Beach; Beach from North to Chris, and Chris Street. Snow plowing to be followed by removal with loader as required.

**Collector Streets:** will be plowed: Warren Avenue, Ives Street, Beach Street, and Riverside Drive

**Stage 2:** A stage 2 snow event takes longer for the crews to plow. Priorities will be given to Residential Hill routes, Collector Streets, and the Downtown Loop. Crews will work reasonable amounts of overtime, but will be given time for rest. All routes will be plowed during a Stage 2 event. Depending on snow depth, moisture content, equipment availability, crew hours, and weather conditions a full plowing and cleanup will take approximately 2 days.

**Stage 3:** A Stage 3 snow will be managed similar to a Stage 3 event. A Stage 3 event will activate the use of private contractors to supplement City crews.

## **PARKING RESTRICTIONS**

**Stage 1 & 2:** During a Stage 1 or Stage 2 Snow Event, vehicles must be moved off the street, including areas where there is designated street parking between the hours three a.m. and eight a.m. Drivers/owners will be given 6 hours to comply. When the snow has stopped, the street has been plowed, and forecasts don't call for 2 inches or more in the next 24 hours, normal parking will be reinstated.

Driver/owners will be given 6 hours to comply with parking restrictions. A letter of warning will be placed on the vehicle. A letter of warning will not be placed on repeat offenders. Vehicles may be towed for failing to comply with parking restrictions.

## **COMMUNICATIONS ACTION PLAN**

Prior to the snow season each fall, the City will educate citizens and employees about snow events and the impacts through a variety of communication tools.

- Snow Removal Information flyers will be sent out in September, and will be available at City hall.
- Snow Removal Information will be available on the City's web site.
- Areas of designated parking will have a sign stating that between November and March a Snow Event may be declared and parking restrictions will be enforced.

When a snow event is declared, the City will notify citizens and employees of conditions through the front page of the City's web pages.

## APPENDIX A

### SNOW ORDINANCES

#### **12.04.090 Owner or occupant to keep sidewalk clear of snow, ice or obstructions.**

The owner or occupant of any house or other building, or the owner or proprietor, lessee or person entitled to the possession of any vacant lot, and any person having the charge of a church, public hall or public building, in the city, shall during the time that snow shall continue on the ground, by nine a.m. every morning clear the sidewalks in front of such house or other building, or in front of such lot, from snow and ice, and keep the same free from snow and ice during the day; or, shall, in case the snow or ice is so congealed that they cannot be removed without injury to the sidewalk, cause the said snow or ice to be strewed with ashes or sand, and shall also at all times, keep such sidewalks free and clear from all dirt, filth, or other obstructions or incumbrances, so as to allow the public full and free use of such sidewalks; any person refusing or neglecting to comply with the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Provided, that in cases of unrepresented nonresident property owners, the officer in charge of sidewalks shall have the sidewalks cleaned off or made safe in the manner hereinbefore provided for and report the expense thereof to the city council and said property owner shall be liable for said expense and in case he or she neglects or refuses to pay the same, the city shall recover the full amount thereof in a civil action thereon. (Ord. 46 § 12, 1917)

#### **12.04.100 Dumping of snow on public streets.**

It is unlawful for any person, by any means, to scrape, plow, dump, push or deposit snow or ice on, into or upon any street, highway, alley or upon any fire hydrant or traffic sign in the city; provided, however, this section shall not prevent the removal of snow from public sidewalks into the streets or prohibit the city, county or state snow removal or street maintenance operation. Violators of this section shall be liable for the costs of removal of snow as determined by the city, and in the case that such violator neglects or refuses to pay the same, the city shall recover the full amount of such costs in a civil action thereon. (Ord. 688 § 1, 2011)

#### **8.12.040 Accumulation of refuse.**

No garbage or refuse container shall contain earth, rocks, heavy refuse, or hot ashes. The occupant of property shall keep the area around the garbage receptacle clean and shall keep the receptacle easily available during periods when snow is on the ground. (Ord. 451 § 4, 1987)