

Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

www.ci.norfolk.ne.us

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Snow Removal



The first snow of the season has already come and gone. Fortunately, there was only a small amount that fell and it melted quickly. The next time city residents may not be so lucky as snow is a fact of life in Northeast Nebraska. Though they can't stop the snow from coming, the City of Norfolk street division's goal is to at least get it off the streets as quickly as possible.

Snow removal will begin when there has been at least one to two inches of snowfall. The city's main priority is to keep roads open for emergency vehicles. Main snow routes are plowed first. No vehicles can be parked along these designated snow routes.

If there is more than two inches of snowfall, city officials may call a snow emergency. These snow emergencies will be announced on the radio stations in Norfolk and on the city's website. Those who follow city Twitters will also receive a twitter informing them of a snow emergency.

To make sure as much of the snow is cleared off the street as possible, the city asks that residents park their vehicles on the even numbered side of the street. This will allow for more lanes of the street to be cleared of snow. Once the street is completely plowed, both sides of the street are available for parking not restricted by previous declaration.

"Keeping parked cars off of the street when possible makes the huge task of street snow removal not only more cost effective but safer for pedestrians and drivers," said Jim Koch, City of Norfolk Streets Director. The costs for removing snow in 2009 was over \$70,000.

There is a schedule as to what residential area gets plowed first. The different areas are rotated so that each has the opportunity of getting the snow cleared off their street first. This rotation sequence can be found at <http://ci.Norfolk.ne.us/Street>. From there click on "Snow Removal" and then "Sequence of A Residential Plowing."

City staff are continuously checking road conditions and monitoring weather forecasts. If snow or ice is likely, anti-icing trucks will apply a brine solution to risk areas including bridges, intersections and hills within the city.

Residents are asked to scoop the sidewalks on their property as soon as possible after a snowfall. It should not be scooped onto roads but kept on the property.

"If you have a neighbor who is unable to scoop his or her sidewalks because of health reasons, please consider helping them out with this task to make all the sidewalks in Norfolk safe and passable," Koch said.