WINTER STORM RESPONSE FAQ

Below is a list of frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding the City of Goddard’s response to winter weather.

Why do City plows push snow into my driveway and who is responsible for clearing it?

Because of normal snow plowing operations, snow may be placed in your driveway unavoidably. Plows are angled to the right for plowing from the centerline of the street to the curb. A certain amount of snow will be deposited in driveways. It is the owner and/or resident’s responsibility to remove snow placed in driveways or on sidewalks by the City while snow plowing.

I just shoveled my sidewalk. Why did the City snow plow push snow on it?

Some areas of the City have narrow public right of way. When plowing, the snow may end up on the sidewalk you just shoveled. We apologize for the inconvenience this causes you.

When does my sidewalk need to be cleared and whose responsibility is it?

The owner/occupant of the property adjacent to the public sidewalk is required to remove snow or ice from the sidewalk within 48 hours after the ice or snow stops coming down. Sand or other approved abrasives can be used over ice, as long as the slipping hazard is eliminated.

Why do City parking lots and trails sometimes get plowed before all streets are plowed?

The City has four trucks designated to plow snow on streets. The City can use backhoes, and small tractors to plow the parking lots and park trails in order for people to access City buildings.

Can I as a resident, push snow from my property onto the sidewalk or into the street?

No. Dumping or pushing snow in the street or onto a sidewalk is a very dangerous act that can cause skidding, accidents, and may bring you significant liability if an accident is caused by these actions.
Do some streets get higher priority during a snow storm?

Yes, major roadways in our snow plan receive the highest priority. The snow route is based on traffic volume and the Goddard School District’s bus route plan. Our current snow map can be viewed here.

Can I park my car on the street during a snow or ice storm?

Cars parked on the side of the road during a winter storm run the risk of being covered under snow from the City’s snowplow trucks. It also impedes our ability to keep our roads cleared of snow. It is for your personal benefit and that of the entire City that we actively discourage parking on the street during winter storm events.

You can follow the City online and get real-time updates via social media at the following links:

GoddardKS.gov
Twitter.com/CityOfGoddard
Facebook.com/GoddardKansas

What should I do if I think a snowplow is traveling too fast for safety?

Our plows are directed to plow between 10 and 20 m.p.h. and sometimes slower; the only exception is on some of the major roadways. If you believe speeds are in excess of safe conditions, please contact us giving the location, description of the vehicle and time of day. We will investigate accordingly.

Do the City Council or City Administrator get their streets plowed first?

No.

Does the Department of Public Works take criticism and input from citizens?

Yes, and this is encouraged. If a group of citizens would like to meet with us or have suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact City Hall.

Who should I call if I have a questions or concern?

We ask that all calls be made Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8 a.m and 4:30 p.m. at 316-794-2441.

You may also comment through the City website by clicking the “Feedback Link” at the bottom navigation bar.

One of the most important tasks undertaken by your Public Works Department is the management of snow and ice environmental conditions. This task cannot be completed without a strong team of individuals working together. I want to thank all our public works employees who
work around the clock when winter storms affect our community. If you get a chance to wave to our snowplow operators, please do so as it will make a difference in their day. Remember that while you are shoveling your drive or sidewalk they are working long hours to serve our community and plow our roads. When they are finished for the day they still must return home and tend to their own personal driveways and sidewalks.

Thank you,

Brian W. Silcott
City Administrator