



SNOW PLOWING POLICIES

Winter is upon us and the Village of Roscoe is well into their snow removal season. We want to share some information with you so we can do a better job of clearing snow from our roads in a timely and economic way.

The Village of Roscoe is dedicated to doing the best job of snow removal possible within the restraints of reasonable cost. By its nature, there will always be someone who is plowed first or last. We operate on routes designed to best utilize our equipment and to give the fastest economic service possible. Conditions, such as when snow starts and stops, how wet or deep, and/or wind, affect the timing, method and success of removal. There are times when it's impossible to make progress and we must delay starting or pull off the road; and there are times and conditions where we may only plow to keep roads open. Your understanding and cooperation are very important to our efforts. With the best planning and efforts, there are still things that go wrong.

If you need to report special problems, please call the Public Works Department at 815-877-0746 and leave a message. Our office hours are 7:00am to 3:30pm Monday through Friday. Any after-hours calls will be addressed as soon as possible the following work day. Snow crews can operate all hours of the night, so patience and understanding can go a long way. Here are some specific issues you may need to deal with from time to time.

OBSTRUCTIONS:

Some residents like to landscape their yards close to the roads. For the safety of our snowplow crew, items such as rocks, bushes, fences, hedge walls and timbers should **NOT** be placed in the right-of-way. Homeowners who may have such objects may be liable for any damages those objects may cause. You should be aware that there are rather deep right-of-ways in front of all homes, which the homeowner does not own.

These right-of-ways serve many purposes including allowing crews to push snow off the pavement several feet to make room for future snowfall. Damage to any obstructions (railroad ties, boulders, posts, cars, etc.) on the right-of-way will be the responsibility of the homeowner, as these obstructions are in violation of State Statues.

MAILBOXES:

Winter is hard on mailboxes. By their nature, they are in conflict with efforts to clear snow from roads. At times, heavy slush discharged from a plow will knock down a mailbox. Most mailboxes, if properly placed and installed, will withstand heavy slush. The Village will **NOT** be responsible for damage done to mailboxes knocked down by heavy snow or slush. There are times, under difficult winter conditions we may knock down a mailbox. In the event that damage is caused by our plow, a supervisor will investigate the claim. Upon finding a Village snowplow at fault and providing the mailbox complies with postal regulations, the Village will repair the mailbox or replace the mailbox/post, if necessary,

MAILBOXES continued:

with a standard wooden post and box according to postal regulations (sorry, no fancy replacements). Each property owner is responsible for the condition of their mailbox and the approaches to them. Poorly maintained mailboxes may be lost to conditions other than damage by a plow. The homeowner is responsible for all damage other than a plow striking their mailbox.

DRIVEWAYS:

An unavoidable result of plowing snow is a ridge of snow along the road and at the end of driveways. Operators do what they can to minimize this when possible. You can help yourself by piling the snow you clear from your driveway to the right side (the side away from approaching traffic). This will minimize the snow ridge on your drive.

CUL-DE-SACS:

A wonderfully peaceful place to live, but you will have to pay an additional price for your privacy. They are difficult to plow and cause many problems for the homeowner. Please be understanding of the additional problems they cause for snow removal crews.

STUCK VEHICLES:

Please do not ask us to assist in pulling out stuck vehicles. We do not accept responsibility nor do we have the proper equipment to do this. You should be prepared to call a local towing service should you get stuck.

For those of you who are newcomers, especially from cities or southern states, you should make yourself aware of differences in conditions, in removal methods and responsibilities. There are a number of government agencies responsible for roads within Winnebago County. Knowing who to contact for a road problem could help expedite resolution to any problems you may experience. Roscoe is still a rural community that may dictate harsher snow conditions for both the resident and the snow

removal crew. Your proper preparation and driving techniques will help avoid problems for everyone. Please slow down and drive carefully during adverse conditions.

Village of Roscoe SNOWFALL ORDINANCE:

§72.50 of the Village of Roscoe Code of Ordinances states:

- (A) It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle on any public street or portion thereof in the Village at any time within 12 hours after a snowfall of 2" or more has occurred.
- (B) Any Vehicle found illegally parked under this section may be removed and towed away under the order of the police department, as provided for in §72.65 of this Code.
- (C) The police department may issue tickets for violations of this section; such fines shall be in the amounts set forth in §72.67 of this Code.

TO REPORT PROBLEMS, PLEASE CALL

Public Works Department: 815-877-0746
Roscoe Village Hall: 815-623-2829