



## Snow and Ice Removal from Sidewalks in the City of Morgantown

During this time of year, it is important for residents and property owners to remember that the City of Morgantown has regulations to keep sidewalks and driveways clear of snow and ice. These regulations are in place to ensure the safety of all pedestrians in our community from serious injury and life-threatening hazards, whether they are US Postal carriers or school children.

Property owners are required to clear snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours of a snow event. Snow and ice removal from personal walkways, stairs, driveways, and parking spaces are at the discretion of the property owner. However, if these walkways, stairs, driveways, and parking spaces are for *rental or business property*, they do fall within the same 24 hour clean up standard.



Responsibility is *not limited only* to ice and snow removal during winter months. All sidewalks, walkways, stairs, driveways, and parking spaces must be maintained and free from any hazardous conditions, including deteriorating concrete to pot holes in the driveway.

These regulations and enforcement measures are provided in Morgantown City Code 913.11 "Maintenance; Removal of Snow, Ice and Dirt" and in the International Property Maintenance Code 302.3 "Sidewalks and Driveways."

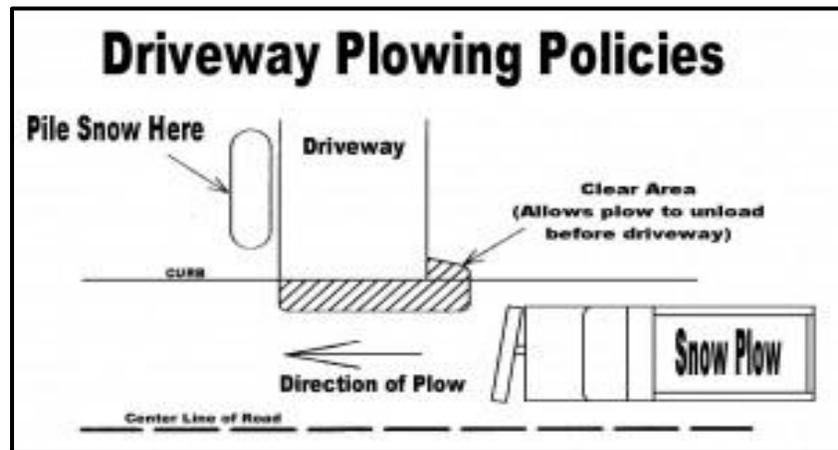


Please be a good neighbor by keeping sidewalks and driveway entrances safe from snow and ice. You could also offer to help those in your neighborhood who may be less able to shovel their own sidewalks.

If you are physically unable to clear your sidewalk and have no neighbor, friend, or family member that can help, please call 304-284-7401 and speak to someone in Code Enforcement.

# Snow Shoveling Guidelines

Shown below is a diagram of the City's driveway plowing policies. Abiding by the following guidelines will help make the snow removal process easier, safer, and more effective for all:



- Snow should be plowed or shoveled to the right side of the driveway as you are facing the intersecting roadway. By being plowed away from the direction of oncoming snowplows, this action will prevent the bulk of the snow from being pushed back into the driveway.
- Eliminate snow piles at the driveway entrance, whenever possible. High accumulations of snow will obstruct the vision of motorists when exiting from the driveway and hinder the ability of oncoming motorists to see you pulling out of the driveway, creating another potential for accidents.
- Do not push snow out onto roads. This creates hazardous driving conditions for all vehicles.

## Tips to Snow Shoveling

[http://www.nsc.org/news\\_resources/Resources/Documents/Snow\\_Shoveling.pdf](http://www.nsc.org/news_resources/Resources/Documents/Snow_Shoveling.pdf)

The National Safety Council offers the following snow shoveling tips:

- If you have a history of heart trouble, do not shovel without a doctor's permission.
- Take it slow! Shoveling (like lifting weights) can raise your heart rate and blood pressure dramatically; so pace yourself.
- 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's easier on your back than lifting the snow out of the way.
- Don't pick up too much at once.
- Lift with your legs bent, not your back. Keep your back straight. By bending and "sitting" into the movement, you'll 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 winter's cold. Wear a turtleneck sweater, cap, scarf, face protection, mittens, wool socks and waterproof boots.