

# SNOW! SNOW! SNOW!

Winter weather brings many challenges to our residents, business owners and staff. By keeping informed and following a few simple rules and guidelines, we can get through this winter season without incident.

## **NEVER Get Between Snow Plows Traveling Together**

Trucks often travel in groups to clear entire roadways. Sudden lane shifts are common because of medians and turn lanes. Traveling along side these groups is very dangerous.

## **Watch out for Blind Spots**

Plowing city streets requires frequent backing of the truck. The plow driver's field of view is limited. If you can't see the plow's side mirrors, the driver can't see you. Stay two or three car lengths behind the plow.

## **Ice & Snow... Take it Slow**

Snow plows travel well below the posted speed limit. Be patient. Try not to pass the plow. Watch for sudden stops or turns.

## **Beware of Snow Clouds**

Snow plows often create clouds as they clear the roads. These snow clouds can reduce your ability to see.



The City of *Westlake* Ohio  
[www.cityofwestlake.org](http://www.cityofwestlake.org)

Don't  
**Crowd**  
the  
**Plow**



- ❄️ During a snow event, main streets are plowed and salted first. Once main streets are completed, plow operators move on to secondary streets and lastly residential streets and developments. Under normal conditions, residential streets and developments will only be salted at stop signs, hills, curves and intersections. When road surfaces become icy due to conditions such as freezing rain, salt will be applied as needed to provide safe driving conditions.
- ❄️ Residents should pile snow to the left side of their drive (looking from street). This will minimize the amount of snow deposited in your driveway when City trucks clear the roadway.
- ❄️ Pushing or depositing snow from private drives or parking lots into the streets, across the street onto a tree lawn, or on any City right-of-way is not permitted per City Ordinance 1381.13. You can create a hazard for neighbors and those traveling City streets by doing so. Additionally, these areas are needed for City staff to deposit snow from our roadways. If you have a contractor clearing your drive, please make them aware of the City law.
- ❄️ Keep sidewalks clear of ice and snow. Please keep in mind that school children depend on walks to be kept clear for walking to and from school. City Ordinance 1381.13 requires sidewalks to be cleared within a reasonable time, ordinarily not to exceed 12 hours after a snow storm.
- ❄️ Remember that our snowplow operators are out there to keep the streets safe for you. During many snow storms, our staff can work 12 to 16 hour shifts. Please be patient and courteous by giving them the right of way so they can complete their tasks as efficiently as possible.
- ❄️ Snow plow trucks frequently back up when plowing developments and side streets. Stay back at least 50 feet when following any snow plow truck. Drivers cannot see a vehicle that is following too closely. If you can't see their mirrors, they can't see you!
- ❄️ News channels and radio stations keep the public informed when it is not a good idea to travel due to hazardous road conditions. We request that you consider taking their advice. Plow operators cannot complete their work when they are stuck in traffic with everyone else.
- ❄️ Do not allow children to play in or on snow piles/snow drifts within any street right-of-way, including cul-de-sacs. While attractive for children, these areas are very dangerous.
- ❄️ Clear areas in front of mailboxes to help the post office deliver mail.
- ❄️ Inspect your mailbox prior to snow season. Make sure that it is structurally sound (i.e. all screws/nails/bolts are secure; post is in good condition and seated securely, etc.). Generally our snowplows do not hit mailboxes; however, damage occurs from the weight and force of the snow being plowed off the roadway.
- ❄️ Shovel a path from street to fire hydrants.
- ❄️ While there is no winter weather parking ban, keeping your vehicles off of the street during snow events will help us do a better job for you. Parking vehicles in cul-de-sacs and streets during any snow event prohibits us from plowing those areas.
- ❄️ **No Salt and Light Salt Signs.** You will see signs posted around town depicting “Light Salt” and “No Salt.” These signs can be seen wherever road construction or resurfacing has occurred within the past two years. Our policy to apply light or no salt assists in preserving our infrastructure. On occasion, you will see salt trucks treating these areas when conditions become hazardous. Please be aware when signs are present and drive according to conditions!