

# Winter Weather Reminders

Remember, it takes four to six hours after the snow has stopped to clear Northbrook's roadways and can take even longer during heavy or extended snowfalls.

Please be patient as the Public Works Department clears our roadways!

When driving, please give the snow plows plenty of room. Large plows take longer to stop, have multiple blind spots and make frequent backing maneuvers. Keep in mind that the Village is not responsible for plowing all the roadways within the Village limits.

## Parking Restrictions

After a snowfall of two or more inches, it is illegal to park on the streets until they have been completely cleared. **Vehicles in violation are subject to ticketing and towing.** If your vehicle has become disabled, call 847-564-2060 to inform the police.

## Residents Encouraged to Pitch-in!

Please take the time to shovel the public sidewalks for the benefit of students, mail carriers and other pedestrians. It's courteous and the right thing to do, and contrary to rumors, there is no liability per state law!

## Clear the Snow Around Your Nearest Fire Hydrant!

*In case of an emergency, every second counts! Look for the nearest fire hydrants by your home or office.*

Please work with neighbors to keep the fire hydrants on or near your property clear of snow for easy access. In addition to removing snow and debris covering the hydrant itself, it is recommended to clear a 3-foot area around the hydrant for easier access.



## There are a number of steps residents can take to help prevent frozen meters or pipes:

**To the greatest extent possible, keep warm air circulating around your meter and water pipes. This can often be done by keeping cabinet and closet doors open to any areas where there is plumbing, especially if that plumbing runs alongside exterior walls.**

- Eliminate any potential cold drafts near water pipes and your meter by ensuring all windows and exterior doors are tightly closed.
- For residents with glass blocks around their meters, old blankets can be used to temporarily insulate the meter.
- If you have plumbing in your garage, keep the garage door closed whenever it is not being used.
- If you are concerned about a specific pipe or faucet, leave the faucet on at a low rate of flow to keep water moving through the pipe. Moving water is much less likely to freeze.
- If you do find one or more faucets do not work during this time, check and see if the issue is at the meter or in a single pipe. If there is no water in your home, the problem is likely a frozen meter. If only one or two faucets do not work, the cause is likely a frozen pipe.

If you believe your water meter is frozen, contact the Public Works Department at 847-272-4711 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. (after hours please call the Police Department's non-emergency line at 847-564-2060) to report it.

If a pipe is frozen and has started leaking or is otherwise damaged, shut off your home's water supply and contact a licensed plumber for assistance. If the pipe is not damaged, you can attempt to thaw it by turning the faucet with the frozen pipe on and wrapping the frozen section with hot towels or heating it with a hair dryer. As the ice melts, water will begin passing through the faucet and help melt the ice faster. Please note that frozen pipes may not show any signs of damage until they begin thawing, so it is important to watch the line while it thaws.

For any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 847-272-4711.

## Shoveling Does Have Health Risks!

Stop shoveling and call 911 if you experience discomfort or heaviness in chest, arms or neck; unusual or prolonged shortness of breath; dizzy or faint feeling; blurred vision; excessive sweating; nausea; or vomiting.

## How to Shovel Your Driveway

When clearing snow from your driveway, shovel snow in the direction of traffic and try to make a pocket on the opposite side of the driveway, as shown. By doing so, snow that is plowed by our trucks will be dumped into that pocket and less snow will end up in your driveway.

## Avoid the "Second Shovel"



Credit: County Road Association of Michigan, 2014. [mlocalroads.com](http://mlocalroads.com)

## Warming Centers

For a list of warming centers, visit

[www.northbrook.il.us/WarmingCenters](http://www.northbrook.il.us/WarmingCenters)