

Snow & Ice Removal Standard Operating Procedure

Introduction/Background

Removal of snow and ice from roads is necessary for the benefit of transportation of goods, services and people throughout the City of Pea Ridge. The Street Department has considered the needs of the community and balanced that against necessary budgetary and manpower constraints to develop the following policy. The City of Pea Ridge maintains safe driving surfaces on approximately 120.00 lane miles of city streets.

Purpose

The Street Department is ready with a snow control plan to keep streets safe and accessible during periods of snow and ice. The goal is to provide snow and ice control services on primary and secondary routes and to establish a reasonably uniform, standardized methodology for responding to winter weather events and snow emergencies.

Goals

It is the goal and intent of the City of Pea Ridge to provide timely, efficient and cost-effective snow removal and ice control on the roadways for the safety and benefit of the city's residents. This will be achieved by implementation and execution of the procedures and tasks outlined in the Snow and Ice Removal Procedure, establishing standardized removal operations and clear goals for Street Department staff, minimizing liability and equitability. Due to the many variables that are inherent in Arkansas weather, each storm and or weather event may require slightly different efforts and strategies to attain the necessary goals.

Snow Removal

Procedure

Preparing for winter storms on or before November 1st, the Street Department acquires 1,500 gallons of Salt Brine, 60 tons of salt and stock piles 50 tons of sand located at the Street Department.

When snowy weather is forecast snow plows and spreaders are installed on vehicles, the salt brine apparatus installed in two trucks in preparation for the event.

Snow and ice removal operations begin on primary roads and selected heavily traveled local roads when slippery conditions exist, or snow begins to accumulate. The road crews respond accordingly to cover the City. During systematic coverage, the City will also attempt to respond to information received identifying

specific hazardous icy spots. The normal work day for the Street Department is 7:00AM to 5:30 PM. When a storm is forecast, all 6 Street Department employees are placed on call to cover all route positions when needed.

The Street Department depends on several warning sources for weather and road conditions. The Police Department have been the primary alerts to Dispatch.

Snow Removal Priorities

For the first plowing, Priority 1 Routes, based upon the minimum network which must be kept open to provide a transportation system connecting police, and fire stations are listed below: **

1. Big Sugar Golf Course Area
2. Coler Hill
3. Nemett Circle
4. Shephard St
5. E. Harris St.
6. Patterson Rd
7. It'll Do Road
8. Weston St.

Attention to intersections, hills and curves and the use of ice control materials will be extended beyond these locations as plowing continues. Other paved local roads are then done with ice control measures which are treated in the same manner. The above priorities are already on the established routes; but when time is short, and resources are limited, this list shall prevail in the order as listed.

Preemptive application

To successfully and efficiently prevent the formation of an ice/pavement bond, the Street Superintendent must ensure proper timing of the application of anti-icing agents. When snow conditions are expected, a decision of applying ice-melting products before precipitation begins, also known as pretreating, the afternoon of, or the day before a major event will be made. The Street Superintendent will consider the ground temperature, weather forecasts and other available information sources ensuring the operations are anticipatory or prompt in nature. It requires a systematic approach utilizing all available resources to determine the most effective time for putting down the anti-icing material. City crews work to pretreat major intersections first within the city. Since these products are expensive, application must be timed correctly.

Preemptive application can continue during and after the storm events. Pretreating surfaces will help prevent snow and ice from bonding to surfaces allowing for easier removal. The Street Superintendent will pay attention to expected temperatures during snow and ice events to guide ice-melting product application. However, should the event be rain or light snow, no pretreating will be used - it could cause the roads to become slick and dangerous.

Please contact the Street Department at 479-451-8654 for more information.