

Town of Dolores, Colorado
Snow Removal Policy



February 14, 2011

Background

The Town of Dolores Maintenance Department is responsible for maintaining 7.24 miles of roadway within the Town limits. This includes the removal of snow accumulations on the Town's streets, business district, public parking lots, subdivisions, and public park areas during the snow season. It should be noted, however, that the Town is not responsible for state highways, county roads, private roads and driveways.

Plowing and removal of snow shall be directed and supervised by the Maintenance Supervisor or designee.

The Town maintains a fleet of: two (2) motor graders, one (1) backhoe, one (1) 11-yard dump truck, one (1) 7-yard dump truck, one (1) plow/sander with 12 foot blade and one(1) Loader with 4-yard snow bucket.

The Town does not use de-icing salts or chemicals in the sanding process. The Town assumes no responsibility for damage to landscaping or other objects placed in the right-of-way, which could be damaged by plows.

The Maintenance Department genuinely appreciates calls from the public advising us of weather/road conditions or emergencies. It is impossible to clear all roads immediately. Citizen patience and cooperation during weather emergencies is greatly appreciated.

Policy

Commencement of Snowplowing

Snow plowing will generally commence when 5" of snow has accumulated within Town. If the snow is wet and heavy, plowing operations may be initiated sooner.

Town staff will typically begin plowing at 5:00 AM but may begin at any time depending on the timing of threshold snow accumulations. In instances where heavy accumulations are expected, discretion will be exercised as to the timing of plowing operations.

Priority of Streets

The snowplowing priority begins with the school zone and then moves to the business district and finishes with residential streets, parking lots and parks. During the snow removal process intersections are cleared and sanded and some windrows are immediately moved in higher traffic areas.

As a general rule the Town operates a four person plow team and a three person removal team. The fourth driver is hired on an as needed basis to speed the plowing process while clean-up generally takes longer and is accomplished with the Town's three maintenance employees.

The school zone begins with 14th street which opens access to our maintenance facility so staff can get in to work. Central Avenue, Hillside Avenue and 12th Street are then plowed including immediate removal of the windrow on Central Avenue between 11th and 14th as well as the school bus parking lot which is not Town property but is done as a courtesy.

Then a single pass with a grader is done on Hillside Avenue between 11th and 6th on the way to the business district. Then 3rd through 6th Streets are plowed north of Highway 145 before clearing 3rd Street to Riverside Avenue and back to 4th Street.

While the grader is doing its work, the plow truck is simultaneously windrowing Central Avenue and clears Porter Way. When Central Avenue is finished, the plow gets 1st and 2nd Streets between Highway 145 and Central Avenue before heading back to plow Hillside Avenue and 6th through 9th Streets between Highway 145 and Hillside Avenue.

The grader then heads to clean 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th Streets north of Hillside.

The backhoe and loader are also simultaneously clearing intersections and alleys as well as clearing the windrow on south 4th Street before moving to the Community Center which is also done as a courtesy as it is not owned by the Town.

The plow truck then clears Merritt Way before plowing 5th through 8th Streets south of Highway 145.

The grader and plow truck then begin clearing Hillside Avenue between 14th and 21st Streets before plowing 16th through 21st Streets. While this is occurring the grader windrows Eric and Breanna Drives and pushes 15th Street.

After these are cleared, both grader and plow truck begin clearing alleys and intersections.

Cleanup and hauling begins once all streets are passable. The hauling priority is similar to the plowing priority beginning with the business district and then residential areas.

Sidewalk Snow Removal

In accordance with the Dolores Municipal Code, Chapter 12, Section 12.05.010 *Removal of Snow and Ice*, it shall be the duty of the owner, tenant and occupant of any premises abutting or adjoining any public sidewalk to remove all snow and ice from such sidewalk within a reasonable time after every snowfall in order to give safe passage to pedestrians. Such removal shall not be accomplished through the use of salts on the concrete as deterioration of the sidewalk will result. Sanding shall be permitted.