

Lincoln County Snow and Ice Removal Policy

Lincoln County's Snow and Ice Removal Policy is established to provide guidelines to the public in order to ensure consistent practices for snow and ice removal.

The county's goal is to have all routes passable when reasonably possible after the snowfall has stopped. The higher traffic volume roads will receive higher priority for snow and ice control operations (higher priority roads are typically the blacktop roadways). The decision to plow or sand will be made by the County Engineer and the Maintenance Road Foreman based on the following guidelines:

1. Appreciable accumulations of snow, generally two inches.
2. Drifting of snow which seriously affects travel.
3. Icy conditions, which seriously affect travel.

The County is staffed for one shift of snow and ice removal. The standard early start time is 5:00 a.m. Factors that often delay snow and ice removal include severe cold, strong winds, and limited visibility.

The County does not assure a completely bare road and will not sand entire sections of roadway. Sanding is done at problem locations such as hills, curves, intersections and bridges. Regular sanding is done with 10% salt mixture.

No travel advisories issued by the state patrol and/or the sheriff apply to the County snow and ice removal crews.

Mailboxes and fences damaged during snow removal are evaluated case by case. Only those mailboxes and fences that were properly located and installed, and which were damaged by actual contact with County equipment will be repaired at the County's expense.

County staff may assist stranded motorists by contacting law enforcement and/or emergency personnel. The County will not attempt to remove a stuck vehicle except to eliminate a safety hazard.

The sheriff's office should be contacted for plowing for emergency purposes. Plows will not be dispatched from regular routes or called for extra duty unless it is a fire or emergency medical services event coordinated through the Sheriff's office.

Adopted at the Regular Board Meeting, December 18, 2001.