



CITY OF SEDALIA

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PRESS RELEASE

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Winter Weather Reminder: Emergency Snow Routes

Central Missouri's first snow fall of the season is forecast to occur over the next twenty-four hours. While no appreciable amount of snow is anticipated from this snow event, the City of Sedalia's Public Works Department wanted to remind residents not to park along Emergency Snow Routes during snow emergencies. Emergency Snow Routes help improve traffic flow after a storm by declaring a parking ban along the designated routes to expedite snow clearing. When more than two inches of snow/sleet/ice is expected within a 24-hour period, the City declares a snow emergency and the Emergency Snow Routes are put into effect. Parking is prohibited along Emergency Snow Routes once the snow emergency occurs. The Street Department works to keep these designated streets as clear as possible to allow for emergency vehicle use.

When driving on snow and ice, keep in mind these tips to help keep you safe:

- Take into consideration the road conditions and drive slower
- Pay attention to other drivers, they may be driving as if road conditions are ideal
- Don't follow as closely as you would in clear driving conditions
- Be aware black ice may form on bridges and in shaded areas
- Don't use cruise control
- Use a windshield wiper fluid that doesn't freeze
- Check the air pressure in your tires
- Make sure your car's anti-freeze level is adequate

The map below details which city streets are designated Emergency Snow Routes as well as those designated by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT).



During snow events, the City frequently receives calls from residents asking why snow plows leave snow deposited at the end of their driveways or on sidewalks. Snow plows are designed to push snow to the side. Snow then is deposited at the end of driveways and onto sidewalks as a byproduct of plowing the street. Drivers plow at low speeds (10–15 mph) to minimize this issue, but this problem becomes more challenging when there are larger accumulations of snow. For the same reason, snow ends up in driveways and sidewalks it also ends up in street intersections. Plow drivers do their best to keep these piles (or windrows) small, but their first job is to get the street passable. Once streets have been plowed, crews come back and knock these windrows down as time allows.

Residents also need to be aware that the city does not immediately plow alleys. With over 140 miles of City streets to plow, the City first focuses on clearing City streets and then works with the Sanitation Department to clear those alleys that are used for garbage collection.

The City encourages everyone to check for current travel conditions at MoDOT's "Traveler Info Map" available at their website www.modot.org.

(Attach .pdf version of Emergency Snow Route map.)