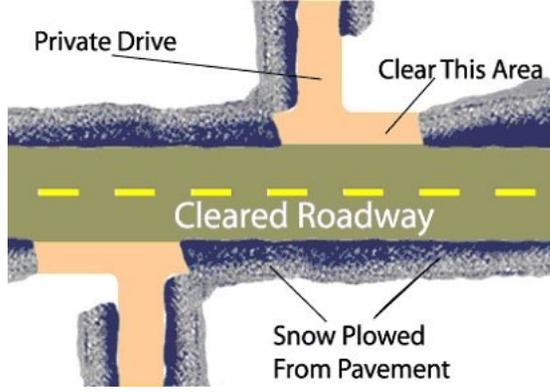


Shoveling Driveways

As you clear your driveway of snow, keep in mind that the snow plow truck pushes snow onto the grass and into driveways. This cannot be prevented, but you can minimize this problem by clearing 15 feet along the curb line in advance of your driveway. (See illustration below). Plow blades will then push snow into the area just before your driveway. Most, but not all, of the snow from the plow will be deposited in this clear area, leaving a much smaller amount in front of the driveway.



Residents may aid the snow removal process by parking vehicles off the street. Give the snow plows the right-of-way and do not follow too close. Reduce your speed and drive carefully.

City of Cape Girardeau
Public Works Department
Phone (573) 339-6351
www.cityofcapegirardeau.org

CITY of CAPE
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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

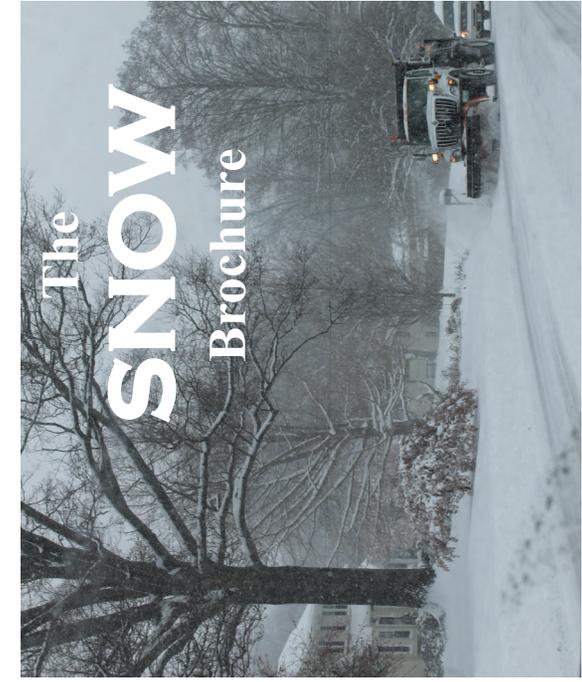
2007 Southern Expressway
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The City of Cape Girardeau Public Works Department maintains over 228 miles of concrete and asphalt roadways within the city limits. Once a snow storm hits, crews from the Street, Sewer and Storm Water, and Water Divisions are dispatched with snow plows and salt spreaders and given a designated route to follow. Our Fleet Services Division is on hand to keep the snow equipment up and running during the course of a snow event. Other Divisions and Departments also help by cleaning off City parking lots and providing additional assistance as needed.

Public Works Crews are ready 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to handle snow emergencies. Our goal is to remove the snow and ice from the roadways as quickly and safely as possible for our residents and visitors. We ask that you keep a safe distance away from our snow equipment as they work to avoid being sprayed with rock salt or liquid de-icing agents. Remember never try and go around or pass a snow plow as it is removing the snow off the roadway.

The City of Cape Girardeau is divided into 7 different zones. The roads in each zone are then broken down into 3 priorities. The 1st priority are the major streets that serve the most traffic and are utilized by our emergency vehicles. The 2nd priority streets are the heavily traveled two-way streets that are not included in priority 1. The 3rd priority are all other city maintained streets in that zone which are residential and have minimal traffic usage.

Our policy is to be sure priority 1 streets are clear before we can move on to priority 2. The thought behind this is that if we keep the heavier traveled streets clear more people will be able to get around. Sometimes the snow continues to fall heavily and as soon as crews get the 1st priority streets ran they are forced to start clearing them again. This delays work on priority 2 and 3 streets.

Frequently asked questions

How does the City of Cape Girardeau prepare for the snow and ice season?

In early October the City Public Works Crews inspect and prepare all equipment; this includes trucks, plows and salt brine tanks. Inventory is checked and needed salt is ordered. Salt brine is made and liquid holding tanks are filled.

Can the City Public Works Department treat the roads before it snows?

When an event is eminent, crews might apply liquid salt brine to bridges, dead end streets and hills. This helps to keep the ice or snow from bonding to the pavement, making it easier to remove.

When do crews begin clearing roads?

Street conditions are monitored closely during inclement weather. Crews are dispatched when street conditions warrant.

What does the City Public Works Department use to clear roads?

Crews plow the streets with blades attached to the front of the trucks. Salt is spread and sprayed with salt brine. Salt brine works well in temperatures of 32 degrees down to 20 degrees. The city does not use sand or cinders; however, other agencies may. Every storm is unique and the processes used to clear the roads must be adaptable to the weather conditions at that time.

What should I do in a medical emergency if the roads have not been cleared?

Call 911 immediately. If emergency responders need help getting to you, they will contact the Public Works Department for assistance.

Why might I see City Public Works Department plows driving with the blade up when it is snowing?

Trucks may be spreading salt. Trucks may be out of material and headed back to the maintenance yard to refill. Be assured that once it snows, the Public Works Department works diligently until the roads are clear.

Why do snowplows block my driveway with snow when they clear the road?

Snowplow operators push snow off roadways in smooth continuous passes. The snow ends up on roadway shoulders, in gutters and sometimes blocking driveways. Unfortunately, there is no way to avoid this inconvenience. Please refer to the "Shoveling Driveways" section of this brochure for information. The shoveling instructions will not completely eliminate the problem, but will greatly reduce the amount of snow left in front of your drive

Does the Public Works Department clear sidewalks?

The City of Cape does not clear sidewalks. Actually clearing sidewalks of snow is the resident's responsibility as per City Code of Ordinances – Streets and Sidewalks, Chapter 24, Article 1, Sec. 24-9 Removal of Snow *No owner or occupier of any lot or land shall allow snow to remain upon any adjoining sidewalk to a greater depth than one (1) inch, ten (10) hours after the snow has fallen.*



Non-city Maintained Streets

Private streets and lanes are not the City of Cape Girardeau's responsibility and will not be plowed or salted by the City.

Following are some of the streets and roads not maintained by the City of Cape Girardeau Public Works Department. All of Highway 61, New Hwy 74/Shawnee Parkway, Kingshighway, Route K and William Street from Kingshighway west are maintained by the Missouri Department of Transportation. Old Hopper Road from Mt. Auburn west to the city limits is maintained by Cape Special Road District.