



Chicago winters can be especially challenging when sidewalks are not cleared of snow and ice. Clearing sidewalks is the law, and it is our responsibility to each other during the winter.

Many people rely on walking and transit as their primary way to get around. Without a wide, clear path through snow and ice, it is especially difficult for people with disabilities, seniors, and children to walk. We all are pedestrians at some point in the day and all benefit from a clear sidewalk.

Make your neighborhood safe for everyone to get around this winter. Help the City of Chicago provide a great pedestrian environment and take responsibility for your sidewalk by clearing snow and ice.

Rahm Emanuel

Mayor
City of Chicago

City of Chicago Department of Transportation

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City of Chicago 311 City Services

Report locations that do not clear their sidewalks by making a "Snow - Uncleared Sidewalk" request

Dial 311

People who live outside the City of Chicago may call 312.744.5000

To request online, visit www.cityofchicago.org/311



Keeping sidewalks clear of snow and ice is everyone's responsibility!

Sidewalk Snow Removal

Guidance for Chicago Residents and Businesses



Who is responsible for clearing the sidewalks of snow and ice?

According to the City of Chicago Municipal Code, "Every owner, lessee, tenant, occupant or other person having charge of any building or lot of ground abutting upon any public way or public space shall remove the snow and ice from the sidewalk..."

It is everyone's responsibility to make sure the sidewalks are clear of snow and ice. We are all pedestrians and benefit from having a safe, clear, and continuous path to travel.

How long do I have to clear the sidewalks?

If the snow stops falling before 4 p.m. you have three hours to clear except on Sunday.

If the snow stops falling after 4 p.m. or on Sunday, clear before 10 a.m. on the next day.

How can I report locations that do not clear their sidewalks?

Make a "Snow - Uncleared Sidewalk" request to the City of Chicago 311 Service Request line.

Dial 311 or request online at www.cityofchicago.org/311
People who live outside the City of Chicago may call 312.744.5000

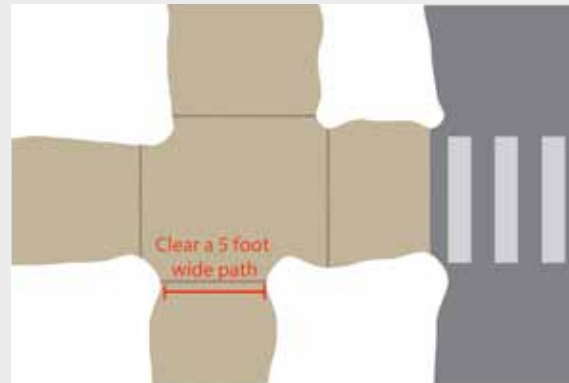
When making a "Snow - Uncleared Sidewalk" request:

- Make sure the problem occurs on the sidewalk. DO NOT use this category to report snow on streets, parking lots, or alleys.
- Provide a specific address where the issue occurs.
- Request a reference number from the operator, this will help you track the status of your request.

How much snow do I need to clear to comply with the law?

The City of Chicago Municipal Code requires individuals to **clear a 5 foot wide path along the sidewalk**, where conditions allow.

This width provides mobility and access to pedestrians in wheelchairs, people with children in strollers, students walking to school, and individuals with assistive devices.



This path does not meet the width required in the Municipal Code.

What is the best way to remove snow from the sidewalk?

- Remove snow along ALL of the sidewalks adjacent to your property including any ramps to the crosswalk.
- Move snow to your yard or the parkway adjacent to your property.
- It is unlawful to push snow into the street, crosswalks, and alley entrances.



Do not push snow from driveways or sidewalks into the street or over crosswalks.



When clearing driveways or walkways do not block the sidewalks with snow.

What happens if I don't clear my sidewalks?

Individuals who do not comply can face fines of \$50.

Businesses that do not comply can face fines up to \$1,000 per day of violation.