

Snow Removal Procedures

In preparation for the upcoming snow season, the San Juan River Village Metro District would like to provide information to the community regarding snow removal operations.

The entrances to the subdivision are sanded for safety as required.

Normal circumstance

Typically, plowing operations begin when there is snowfall accumulation in excess of 6 inches.

Days without snow, the District will clean up and push back snow routes as needed. All roads may not receive attention on those days.

Extreme circumstances

All roads may not receive same day snow removal.

Usually there are two separate snow removal operations:

1. The first is during the storm itself and consists of passes with the plows to keep the roads open. This includes clearing a path sufficient for two vehicles to pass. It also includes clearing cul-de-sacs enough to allow a vehicle to turn around.
2. The second operation begins when the storm subsides. It consists of widening the traveled portion of the road, pushing snow back and plowing out wide spots on the roadways. It may be several days between the first plowing and final cleanup.

Unfortunately, each operation may result in a berm of snow across private driveways or encroachments to District roads. The District does not have the resources to keep driveways clear. This is the responsibility of each individual resident. Reasonable effort is made to plow in a manner that will minimize the snow that is left.

Property owners who create hazards in a public right of way, e.g., plowing snow off private drives, piling construction materials or timber, or placing trash carts, may be subject to prosecution under C.R.S. 43-5-301. A property owner might also be liable for any injury attributable to a hazard or the removal of a hazard created in a public right of way. Vehicle owners and property owners who leave vehicles in a public right of way are likewise subject to prosecution and vehicle impoundment.

Safety concerns

Kids playing in the snow banks left by the snow plow equipment, building snow caves and forts, is a major concern for the safety of the kids. As you know, these machines are big and they can move an enormous amount of snow. Snow removal equipment can be moving and pushing snow banks back at any time; with kids playing in the snow banks, it spells disaster.

Roadside parking

Roadside parking is prohibited along all District roads and within any District road right-of-way. Roadside parking inhibits thorough plowing and vehicles will be towed without notice.

Private plowing

It is unlawful for any person to deposit snow plowed from a private driveway, road or any other source, onto any District road or right of way per Colorado Revised Statute 43-5-301. Homeowners and contractors are advised not to push snow across a District road at any time.

Trash carts

Trash carts should be placed in the driveway, a minimum of 5 feet behind the front of the snow berm to minimize the possibility of being knocked over. Trash carts that are knocked over are not the responsibility of the District.

Fire hydrants

Homeowners adjacent to fire hydrants are responsible for keeping fire hydrants clear of snow and accessible to the fire department. The District will make a reasonable effort to remove the hard pack berm in front of each hydrant, as time permits, to assist homeowners.

Snow driving safety

1. Slow down and use caution around snow removal equipment.
2. Safe following distances behind the plow help you to avoid flying snow and sanding material.
3. Stay out of the vehicle's blind spots.
4. Turn your headlights on.
5. Flashing yellow lights on a truck indicate an emergency vehicle and it is illegal to pass.