

CITY OF BROOKLYN PARK  
\*\*\*\* SNOW REMOVAL POLICIES \*\*\*\*

10/20/06

**INFORMATION NOTICE**

In order for the City to provide effective and efficient service during the winter months, the following policies have been established.

**GENERAL POLICIES**

The City of Brooklyn Park attempts to plow all streets within 24 hours of a "normal" snowfall. This requires up to 12 hours of operation for a "normal" two (2) to six (6) inch snowfall. Ice control is performed whenever necessary or after notification by Police patrol. Clean-up and additional ice control is performed the day(s) following the initial plowing.

**PARKING REGULATIONS**

Parking is prohibited on any City street between the hours of 2 AM and 5 AM from October 15<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> and any time after a snowfall of two (2) inches or more, until the street has been plowed from curb to curb. The depth of the snow is determined by City personnel. Leaving a vehicle parked for more than 24 hours in one spot on a City street is prohibited year round. If your vehicle is towed:

- ✓ The registered owner of the vehicle must show proof of identification and proof of insurance to the Police Department at 5400 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. You can get a release slip 24 hours a day, **however**, the tow lot is only open specific hours.
- ✓ After obtaining your release papers, you will be given directions to the tow lot.
- ✓ Please call 763-493-8222 ahead to find out the hours the tow lot is open.
- ✓ Tow fees are paid at the lot and are **cash** only.
- ✓ Parking fines are paid to Hennepin County District Court.

**MAILBOXES**

If, during plowing, a properly positioned mailbox is tipped or knocked over by the weight of the snow, it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to repair or replace their mailbox. If an individual residential mailbox is damaged during snow removal, and physical evidence shows that the box was actually hit by the plow, reimbursement for repairs may be authorized. If the City is responsible for the damaged box, the City will reimburse the owner up to a maximum of \$30.00 for materials purchased. **RESIDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING THE MAILBOX CLEARED OF SNOW FOR POST OFFICE DELIVERIES.**

**BOULEVARD INTRUSIONS**

City Code prohibits intrusions in boulevards on street public right-of-way (R.O.W.) without City approval. This includes structures and items such as landscape boulders, posts and fences, improperly positioned mailboxes, masonry structures, timbers, stakes, lawn sprinkler systems and other substantial objects or loose materials within the street R.O.W. These intrusions can damage snowplow equipment or become damaged by the weight of snow or equipment contact. Intruding items in the boulevard (R.O.W.) are not replaced or repaired by the City if damaged.

**SOD**

If your sod is damaged during snowplowing operations, the City will pick up the damaged sod in the spring. As a resident, you have two options. The City will install black dirt and seed, or if you prefer sod, the City will pay for the cost of the sod. The City will not pay for the cost of installing the sod. The amount of sod to be purchased by the homeowner, and reimbursed by the City, must be approved prior to the purchase. This can be done by calling Operations & Maintenance at (763) 493-8007.

## **SIDEWALKS**

Brooklyn Park plows snow from a designated arterial sidewalk system as approved by the City Council. This system does not include all sidewalks. In addition, City Code requires an owner and/or the occupant of any property adjacent to a public sidewalk to keep sidewalks free from snow and ice.

## **GARBAGE/RECYCLING CONTAINERS**

City policies require that garbage and recycling containers be accessible for pick-up and placed off street to allow snow removal. The container(s) may have to be placed in the driveway to meet both of these requirements. It is the responsibility of the resident to see that the container(s) is not in the way of the snowplow or sidewalk plow and is also in a spot accessible to the garbage and recycling truck(s).

## **FIRE HYDRANTS**

Fire hydrants are critical to minimize the potential losses involved in any fire. After major snow build-up in boulevards, the Operations and Maintenance and Fire Departments attempt to clear access to critical hydrants as quickly as time allows.

Residents are encouraged to assist the City by clearing hydrants near their property. If possible, they should be cleared five (5) feet on each side to allow Fire Department access. This is a positive step you can take to ensure the safety of your neighborhood and City. We thank you in advance.

## **SAFETY**

**MINNESOTA STATUTE PROHIBITS PLOWING, SHOVELING, BLOWING, OR PLACING SNOW ONTO PUBLIC ROADWAYS.** Placing snow on a public roadway can subject a person to civil liability if a road hazard, such as a slippery area, frozen rut, or bump occurs and causes a traffic accident.

Snow banks can be dangerous at intersections because of sight obstructions. Take extra care when negotiating areas which have vision obstructions.

Snow banks also can be dangerous for children because of the opportunity to slide or tunnel. Please instruct your children to avoid using the banks along the street for play areas. Truck drivers are attempting to be as vigilant as possible, but hidden tunnels, etc., are virtually impossible to see.

Tree trimming is also performed in the winter season to allow safe clearance for truck boxes in the up position and improve sight lines at intersections.

Snow plow trucks are required to stop and back during plowing operations. Please allow a large clearance margin to the trucks. Drivers' vision is hampered by equipment and weather conditions. These trucks have horns or bells that sound when they are backing. Please instruct your children to stay at a safe distance. Caution is what can make a safe winter season.

We hope this information is helpful in explaining City snow removal policies. Please call Operations & Maintenance or the Police Department if you have any questions or concerns.

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE **763-493-8007**  
POLICE DEPARTMENT **763-493-8222**

***HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE WINTER SEASON!***