

To: St. Clair Township Residents
From: Jim Hursey; St. Clair Road District Highway Commissioner
Date: January 15, 2019

RE: Snow Removal Procedures

Dear Township Resident:

The purpose of this letter is to explain our snow removal procedures and to enlist your cooperation so we may provide an expedited service for everyone involved.

If you are receiving this letter it's because you reside within the parameters of St. Clair Township, but outside the boundaries of one of the following municipalities which all or part may also be within the parameters of the township: Belleville, Fairview Heights, Shiloh or Swansea. Residents within the township but outside the boundaries of the mentioned municipalities will have road services performed under the jurisdiction of this office.

It is our desire to provide those residents with the best road maintenance possible. If you have received this letter and your residence is within the township and or within one of the mentioned municipalities, then it is important to understand your road maintenance is performed by that local municipality.

Regarding snow removal, primary objective of the process is to provide passage for emergency vehicles; e.g.: fire, ambulatory and police vehicles. Our drivers will repeatedly run through their assigned routes to maintain this passageway until the snowfall subsides. With lighter snows, less than 2 inches, our objective can usually be maintained simply by spreading salt. With heavier accumulations of snow it becomes necessary to plow.

Whenever weather conditions necessitate snow plowing it would be helpful and expedite the process if vehicles, trash cans and basketball goals were removed from the roadway; especially in cul-de-sacs and on dead-end streets. Once the drivers have accomplished their primary objective and after the snowfall has subsided, the drivers will then revisit the subdivisions within their assigned routes and begin to "plow back" a prolonged process in which the drivers begin to widen the intersections and the streets by clearing snow from curb-to-curb. The objective of plowing back is to provide easier access for mail carriers and trash service. During this process it is not uncommon for snow (especially after heavier accumulations) to be left at the end of an already cleared driveway or sidewalk entrance to the street or mailbox. Snow left by the plow at the end of a cleared driveway may be frustrating to many residents but it cannot be avoided.

We recommend waiting until the drivers have had a chance to plow back before cleaning your driveway entrance to the street or understand that additional cleanup may be necessary afterwards.

In closing, let me address one final concern you may have as a homeowner. Throughout the snow removal process, it is not uncommon, for the driver to scrape the edge of your lawn. After the snow melts there could be an unsightly appearance to your front lawn as a result. Usually the damage is minor and most often the homeowner makes the repair themselves.

However, if you feel you require additional assistance with your lawn repair once spring has arrived around mid-April, please contact our office.

If I can be of further assistance with any road concerns you may have, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at the St. Clair Township Office at (618) 233-3437, fax (618) 233-0338 or e-mail at jim@stclairtownship.com

Respectfully,
Jim Hursey
St. Clair Road District Highway Commissioner