



**VILLAGE OF ALSIP**  
12221 S. ORCHARD AVENUE, ALSIP IL 60803  
708-385-6902 x364

### **Winter Snow Plow Parking Restrictions:**

Residents are asked to promptly remove vehicles from village streets at the start of a snow fall. Vehicles are subject to ticketing and towing after a 1” accumulation on marked primary routes and 3” on secondary routes (secondary routes are not marked).

Also, please do not push snow back onto the street as it is unlawful to do so after the street has been plowed. Some snow will overflow onto driveways and sidewalks as part of the plowing process; your understanding of this matter is appreciated.

### **Snow Removal Suggestions:**

An unavoidable result of plowing roadways is that some snow will spill off from the plow blade into driveways. The Alsip Public Works understands how frustrating this can be, especially when residents have already cleared the ends of their drives. The department suggests waiting until the plow trucks have made their final pass along the curb line before shoveling. Information pertaining to the plow driver’s status in your area can be obtained by contacting the Alsip Public Works at 708-385-6902 x364 during normal business hours (8am – 4:30pm).

If you cannot wait for the plow truck to make its final pass, the following suggestions are offered as a way to reduce the amount of snow overflowing onto the end of your drive:

- \* Shovel snow at the end of your driveway onto the parkway to the right (when facing the street). This will help to reduce the amount of snow deposited as the plow truck passes by.
- \* Clear a portion of the roadway directly to the left of your drive (when facing the street). This will also help to reduce the amount of snow deposited as the plow truck passes by.
- \* Not depositing snow from your driveway into the roadway will also help to reduce the amount of snow that could be plowed onto your drive.

**Village of Alsip**  
**Public Works Department**  
**“Frequently Asked Snow Command Questions”**

As an ongoing effort to aid in providing the best possible snow removal service to the residents of the Village of Alsip, the Public Works Department would like to offer these answers to the most commonly asked questions.

**Q: What are the basic goals of the snow removal program?**

**A:** Our first priority is to provide safe and efficient travel on as many of our roads as possible in the shortest amount of time. These goals are accomplished by focusing our efforts on having the snow cleared for the morning and evening rush hours.

**Q: Why does it take so long to remove the snow from our streets?**

**A:** We are proud that the response time to clear village streets from an average snowfall of four (4) to six (6) inches only takes between twelve (12) to sixteen (16) hours. We utilize all the equipment and manpower available, but must also maintain the many other village services that are provided. Heavy wet snows, harsh blowing winds, sub-zero temperatures, and excessive vehicle traffic may also complicate snow removal efforts and can cause added delays.

**Q: Why do I always see snow plows on other streets before mine is done?**

**A:** Primary and collector streets in the Village of Alsip carry higher volumes of traffic. Therefore, the chances of accidents are greater and demand our first attention. It is also important that we maintain a consistent pattern so that our snow program can be evaluated and updated. Our manpower and equipment resources dictate that we follow a specific plan to cover all areas of the village as efficiently as possible.

**Q: Why does it seem that the snow plows arrive just after I finish shoveling my driveway?**

**A:** This question is probably the most commonly asked question from our residents. Unfortunately, there is no easy answer to resolve this situation unless the homeowner waits until the snow plows have made their final passes along the curb line- usually their fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) and fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) passes down a street. Standard operating procedure requires the snow plow route driver to open the center of the road first. If you cannot wait until the snow plow returns to plow the curb line, you may have to remove some snow from the end of your driveway. On average, it takes about five (5) hours after the storm ends before a driver can return to plow the curb line.

**Q: Why was my car plowed in?**

**A:** Village ordinance prohibits parking on village streets during snow cleanup operations. Illegally parked vehicles are the number one handicap cited by our snow plow drivers. Illegally parked vehicles create a hazard and reduce the effectiveness of our program. This is especially true in cul-de-sacs and on dead-end streets.

**Q: After a snowfall, when is it legal to park on village streets?**

**A:** Vehicles are subject to ticketing and towing once there is an accumulation of one (1) inch of snow on primary routes and three (3) inches of snow on secondary routes. Vehicles should not be parked back on primary routes for twelve (12) hours after the snow storm has ended, or on secondary routes for twenty-four (24) hours after the snow storm has ended. During this period, storm cleanup operations along the curb line are being completed.

**Q: Why is there a difference in the snow removal efforts on certain streets?**

**A:** Some streets, such as 127<sup>th</sup> St. and Cicero Ave., are maintained by the State of Illinois, while other streets may be maintained by the Cook County Highway Department or Worth Township. Any questions pertaining to roadway jurisdiction should be directed to the Superintendent's office.

**Q: Why won't the Village of Alsip help medically handicapped or senior citizens remove snow from driveways and private property?**

**A:** Standard operating procedure prohibits any village employee from removing snow in back of the curb line. We suggest that those residents who for various reasons cannot perform snow removal activities on private property make arrangements with family, neighbors, or private contractors to assist them.

**Q: How can I help, and what are my responsibilities as an Alsip homeowner?**

**A:** Your patience and cooperation are the most important factors in helping us do our job for you. Other things you can do for our mutual benefit include not pushing the snow from driveways and sidewalks back into the street, promptly removing vehicles from village streets, keeping the area leading to your mailbox clear of snow, and placing garbage cans behind the curb on garbage collection day. If you have a fire hydrant in front of your home, please help to keep it exposed, or report it if it gets covered with snow.

## Frequently Asked Snow Questions

As an ongoing effort to provide the best possible snow removal service to its residents, the Alsip Public Works offers answers to these most commonly asked questions.

**Q: Why does it take so long to remove snow from our streets?**

A: We are proud that the response time to clear Village streets on an average snowfall of four to six inches only takes about 12 hours. Heavy wet snows, harsh plowing winds, sub-zero temperatures and vehicle traffic may complicate snow removal efforts and cause delay. We utilize all of the equipment and manpower available but must also maintain the many other Village services we provide.

**Q: Why do I always see snow plows on other streets before mine is done?**

A: Arterial and collector streets in the Village carry higher volumes of traffic. The chances of accidents are greater and these streets demand our first attention. Also, it is important for us to maintain a consistent pattern as our manpower and equipment resources dictate following a specific plan. In order to cover all areas of the Village as efficiently as possible, this consistency is necessary to evaluate and update our snow program for future storms.

**Q: Why is there a difference in the snow removal efforts on certain streets?**

A: Some streets, such as 127<sup>th</sup> Street and Cicero Avenue, are maintained by the State of Illinois. Other streets may be maintained by the Cook County Highway Department, Worth Township or the management company of your private drive. Any questions pertaining to road jurisdiction should be directed to the Public Works Department.

**Q: Why does it seem that the snow plows arrive just after I finish shoveling my driveway?**

A: This question is probably one of the most commonly asked questions by our residents. Unfortunately there is no easy answer to resolves this situation unless the homeowner waits until snow plows have made their final passes along the curb line- usually their forth pass down a street. Standard operating procedure requires the snow plow route driver to open the center of the road first. If you can not wait until the driver returns for the curb line, you may have to remove some snow from the end of the driveway. On average, it takes about five hours before a driver can return to do the curb line.

**Q: Why was my car plowed in?**

A: Village ordinance prohibits parking on Village streets during snow cleanup operations. Our drivers will not avoid plowing streets with illegally parked vehicles. These vehicles risk not only being ticketed and towed, but also being plowed in. Illegally parked vehicles are the number one handicap cited by our snow plow drivers. They create a hazard and reduce the effectiveness of our program.

**Q: How can I help and what are my responsibilities as an Alsip homeowner?**

A: Your patience and cooperation are the most important factors in helping us do our job of snow removal for you. Please do not push snow from driveways and sidewalks back into the street as **it is illegal to place any substance- such as snow, ice or dirt- upon the public way or public right-a-way.** Please promptly **remove vehicles from Village streets** at the start of a snow fall. Illegally parked vehicles delay snow removal operations and are subject to ticketing and towing. **Keep the area leading to your mailbox clear of snow and place garbage cans behind the curb on garbage collection day.** If you have a fire hydrant in front of your home, please help to keep it visible. **Report hydrants hidden by snow.** Your cooperation with these requests will greatly reduce complications and is appreciated.