

# BOULDER SNOW SEASON Information and Helpful Tips

## Sidewalk Snow Ordinance – RECENT CHANGES

Prompt removal of snow from sidewalks is important in Boulder because it helps facilitate safe pedestrian travel in adverse weather conditions. Many people in Boulder rely on sidewalks in order to conduct their daily affairs and virtually every trip, even those by car, includes some walking, so it's important that sidewalks are cleared of snow in a timely manner.

Boulder Revised Code Section 8-2-13 requires adult residents, property owners, agents, tenants and landlords to clear the sidewalk adjacent to their property by noon the day following a snowstorm. This includes any sidewalk that abuts the property.

**NEW – If the snowstorm ends prior to 5 a.m., you have until noon that day to clear sidewalks of snow and ice.**

**If the snowstorm ends after 5 a.m., you have until noon the following day to clear sidewalks of snow and ice.**

Failure to remove snow before the deadline may result in a summons and/or an abatement process. Each property will only receive one warning per snow season before the abatement process begins. A warning does not have to be issued in order for a Code Enforcement Officer to issue a summons. Abatement includes the use of a private snow removal contractor to clear the sidewalks. The property owner will be charged a \$50 administrative fee along with the contractor's fee for removing the snow.

If a summons is issued, the maximum fine is \$1,000 and 90 days in jail as determined by the Municipal Judge. The fine for a first-time offense is \$100.

To report sidewalk snow removal violations, visit [www.bouldercolorado.gov/ezeo](http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/ezeo) or contact the Environmental and Zoning Enforcement Office at 303-441-3239.

The city will post information on sidewalk snow removal deadlines on its "Winter Tips" website, visit [www.bouldercolorado.gov](http://www.bouldercolorado.gov) and select "Winter Tips" to learn more.

## ICEBUSTERS sidewalk snow removal assistance

If you are physically unable to clear snow from your sidewalks the ICEBUSTERS program will pair you with someone who can help. Volunteers are also needed to help those who cannot complete the work themselves. To volunteer or to learn more, contact the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at 303-443-1933 or send an E-mail to [richardvarnes@rsvp.org](mailto:richardvarnes@rsvp.org).

## Prevent Frozen Pipes

When frigid arctic air hits, water can freeze, then expand and finally cause pipes to burst and possible flooding to occur. Avoid frozen water pipes and possible costly repairs by taking these easy precautions when cold weather is forecasted:

- Keep garage doors closed if there are water lines running through that area
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around plumbing, but be sure to move any harmful cleaners or chemicals out of children's reach
- When it's really cold outside, let the cold water drip (very minimally) from the faucet. Running water through the pipe, even at a trickle, helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- During extreme cold, keep the thermostat set to the same temperature during both the day and night.
- If you will away during cold weather, leave the heat set no lower than 55° F.

## Before cold weather hits:

- Drain water from swimming pools and sprinkler supply lines, but do not add antifreeze to the lines unless directed. Antifreeze is environmentally harmful and is dangerous to most living animals and plants.
- Remove, drain and carefully store outdoor hoses
- Check around the home for other areas where water supply lines are located in unheated areas. Both hot and cold water lines in these areas should be insulated.
- Add insulation to attics, basements and crawl spaces.

In case of pipe burst, Boulder's Fire Department recommends that every member of a household know where the water shut-off valve is in the house and how to use it and encourages practicing turning the valve on and off.

## Important Phone Numbers:

### City of Boulder Transportation Maintenance

Monday-Friday (7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.),  
303-413-7162

### Snow Dispatch

After hours and weekends  
(during snow storms), 303-413-7109

### Street & Bikeway Maintenance Hotline

Operational 24-hours-a-day,  
303-413-7177

### City of Boulder Police Dispatch

For non-emergencies – Operational  
24-hours-a-day, 303-441-3333  
If it is an emergency, dial 911

### Environmental and Zoning Enforcement

To report and issue with sidewalk snow removal, visit [www.bouldercolorado.gov/ezeo](http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/ezeo) or call 303-441-3239.

### Boulder County Road Maintenance

Winter hours Monday-Friday  
(7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.), 303-441-3962  
or 303-441-3963. After hours  
and weekends, 303-441-4444  
(Boulder County Sheriff Dispatch).

### Xcel Energy (gas and electrical service)

Customer Service – 800-895-4999  
Gas or Gas Odor – 800-895-2999

### Colorado Department of Transportation

Conditions within Boulder Monday-Friday  
(8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.), 303-442-4382.  
Highway conditions within two hours  
of Denver (24-hour recording),  
303-639-1111 or [www.cotrip.org](http://www.cotrip.org).

### Qwest (phone and internet service)

Repair and outages – 800-573-1311

### Comcast (cable and internet service)

Customer service and outages –  
303-930-2000

Learn more about surviving the winter in Boulder visiting  
[www.bouldercolorado.gov](http://www.bouldercolorado.gov) and clicking on "Winter Tips."

