

Show Low Monthly News



December 2003

www.ci.show-low.az.us

Snow management plan: preparing for a storm

The City of Show Low, at an elevation of 6,400 feet, enjoys the benefits of four seasons and intermittent snowstorms. The average annual snowfall is approximately 40 inches. Some winters are more severe than others, which means that every resident should be prepared for the worst possible conditions in order to provide a safe haven for you and your family.

Since most of the snowstorms affecting Show Low result in a snowfall of six to eight inches, the City's snow management efforts have been gauged by a storm of this magnitude. As the snow plowing operation proceeds, a "windrow," or "snow berm," develops. **It is impossible to plow without leaving a berm.**

When the snow is removed from the road, the snow plow operator has to pile it as far off the shoulder as possible to protect the road surface and to make room for additional snow from future storms. Individual property owners are responsible for clearing away the windrow, or berm, from driveways, entrances and mailboxes. Do not shovel the snow back into the street.

Upon request, the City provides courtesy snow berm removal for Individuals who are physically or medically infirm. The physical or medical disability must be verified in writing by a physician. This snow plowing service will be provided after the snowstorm ends and after the operator has completed his other snow plowing commitments assigned by the City. If an emergency arises before the snow berm can be removed, call 911 for assistance. Call the City at 532-4100 for more information or to register for this service.

The snow management plan

The City has created the following plan to efficiently and effectively plow and remove snow throughout the City during storms.

- * City staff will begin to monitor snowfall at 0.5 inches of accumulation.
- * At 2.0 inches of snow accumulation, the snow plow operators will commence plowing and cinder spreading of school bus routes, collector roads and transit routes.
- * At 3.0 inches of snow accumulation and the clearing of first-priority roads, the operators will plow and remove snow from residential and secondary roads.
- * The City's Airport Manager will begin snow removal at the airport depending on the snow's depth, moisture content and weather conditions affecting an aircraft's ability to fly.
- * If the snowstorm's intensity is greater than 1.0 inch per hour, the plowing operation may focus on collector roads to keep primary routes open.

Streets and areas not included in the plan

The City is authorized to remove snow from public rights-of-way. The following areas are not serviced under the plan:

- * State roads
- * Private streets
- * Private parking lots
- * Sidewalks other than those at City government facilities
- * Private driveways, even if blocked as a result of plowing public streets, unless occupant has an approved medical disability registered with the City

How you can help!

- * Heavy snowfall disrupts normal everyday living. Dealing with it can be frustrating for everyone. The Public Works crews will do their best to minimize the inconvenience to all our residents and, if necessary, plowing crews will work around the clock. You can help by:
- * Ensuring that your mailbox and other roadside appurtenances are firmly secured and strong enough to handle the snow

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Senior Center grand opening!

The public is invited to the grand opening of the Show Low Senior Center, 301 East McNeil (next to Calvary Baptist Church), on Wednesday, December 17, 2003, from 4 to 6 p.m. Come enjoy refreshments and entertainment and tour the facility.

Storm safety tips

- Listen to weather conditions on the radio or television and follow any advisories in the event of a storm.
- Be prepared! Equip your home with a snow shovel. Stock up on water, food and supplies **before** a storm strikes.
- Consider any special medical needs and have extra medication, oxygen and other vital supplies on hand in case you become snowbound in your home.
- Drive with extreme caution and stay a safe distance away from any snow removal equipment if you're on the road during a snowstorm. The drivers need room to do their jobs safely!
- Equip your vehicle with a winter emergency kit—a shovel, first aid kit, snowsuit or extra coat, hat, gloves, flashlight and fresh batteries, blanket, drinking water and a safety reflector.
- Flashlights, extra batteries and a battery-operated radio should be kept in a convenient place in case of a power outage.
- Get your vehicle's gas tank and home propane tank filled in preparation for a heavy snowstorm.
- Have snow tires or snow chains installed on your vehicle, or use a four-wheel drive vehicle.

Calendar of Events

Family Aquatic Center: 532-4130 * Recreation: 532-4140
Public Library: 532-4070

* Every Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. is **Family Night at the Aquatic Center**. Parents swim for free with a paying child.

* The **Chess Club** (open to all ages) meets Tuesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. Call the library at 532-4070 for the location.

12/02 Start Smart Basketball registration begins (ages 3-5) Mondays, 5:30–6:30 p.m., from 01/05 through 02/16

12/02 Council Chambers
4 p.m., City Council Special Meeting
5 p.m., City Council Study Session
6 p.m., City Council Meeting (NEW starting time)

12/05 7–9 p.m., Aquatic Center (fun for the entire family!)
Santa's Luau (food, games and a hula performance)

12/06 5:30 p.m., Festival Marketplace
Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony

12/06 6:30 p.m. down the Deuce of Clubs
Electric Light Parade ("Home for the Holidays")

12/08 Registration begins for **Men's Basketball League** ages 15+; play begins 01/20

12/09 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

12/11 Noon, Branding Iron Restaurant (public welcome)
Show Low Library Friends Monthly Meeting

12/16 4 p.m., Public Library (all ages)
"Holiday Hilarity with Hedgie" puppet show (Hedgie the hedgehog will be the special celebrity guest)

12/16 Council Chambers
6 p.m., City Council Meeting

12/17 2:45–5 p.m., Aquatic Center
Christmas Craft class (grades 2-6)

12/19 5 p.m., Aquatic Center
Santa's Polar Party (talk to Santa and enjoy cookies, hot cocoa, prizes and polar games in the pool)

12/23 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

12/25 Merry Christmas! (City offices closed)

12/29 Youth Basketball League registration begins grades 1-6; registration ends 01/24; play begins 02/07

12/31 Spring Coed Volleyball registration begins (ages 15+) registration ends 01/28; play begins 02/09

Check out **City 4 Television** and the **City's Web site** at www.ci.show-low.az.us for more information

Show Low Monthly News is produced by the City of Show Low, 200 West Cooley, Show Low, AZ 85901. Direct comments to the City Clerk's office at 532-4061 or, for general information, call 532-4000. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Spring 2004 elections

The City of Show Low will hold its primary election on March 9, 2004. The designated polling place—the Show Low Council Chambers—will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on election day. Voters will be casting their ballots for the Mayor's seat, three Council seats and a proposition for the alternative expenditure limitation - home rule option.

In 1996, Show Low's voters approved an alternative expenditure limitation and reauthorized it in 2000 for another four years. (The state-imposed expenditure limitation was approved by Arizona voters in 1980 to control the growth of government spending and, hopefully, keep tax increases under control. Cities were allowed to spend what they spent in 1979, increased only by inflation and increases in each city's permanent population.) The state's expenditure limitation rules do not allow expenditures to increase to offset the impact of people coming to Show Low to shop, visit or live for part of the year.

The state-imposed expenditure limitation is subject to exclusions. One of these is the issuing of debt. The City could access the restricted cash in its bank account by issuing debt but would incur substantial financing and interest charges. To reduce the City's need to go into debt, the City Council is proposing to reauthorize the alternative expenditure limitation, with two conditions: (1) A \$1 million cash reserve is required and (2) the City Council cannot increase tax rates unless 75% of the City Council votes for the increase.

If you're interested in running for Mayor or a Council seat, packets are available at City Hall. To qualify, you must be at least 18 years old, a qualified elector and resided in the City for at least one year preceding the election. The completed documents must be filed with the City Clerk's office by December 10, 2003.

Voter registration forms are available at City Hall. If you moved your physical residence, changed your name or want to change your party preference, you must re-register to vote. If you're not sure of your status, call the City Clerk's office at 532-4000 and we'll check Navajo County's voter registration rolls for you. Or, you may contact Navajo County by calling (928) 524-4192. Voter registration for the primary election closes February 9, 2004.

Snow Management Plan...continued from front page

weight and from snow plowing operations, thereby preventing you from incurring replacement costs.

* Not parking your motor vehicles in the roadway to assist and expedite plowing operations.

* Protecting any landscaping located near or in the right-of-way adjacent to your residence.

* Not shoveling snow from your driveway until the street has been completely plowed back to the edge of the road, to prevent you from shoveling the driveway twice.

Who is responsible for my neighborhood?

The City uses large dump trucks to continuously plow collector roads during a snow event. Minor roads as well as neighborhoods are assigned different drivers and equipment to continue plowing in an area while the collectors are simultaneously plowed. Call 532-4100 to request the name of the person plowing your road and to advise the operator of any specific problems along your route.