

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO CAMPUS SNOW REMOVAL & ICE CONTROL PROGRAM

The University of Idaho snow removal and ice control program addresses priorities for snow removal and ice control on campus. This program outlines expectations for campus constituents pertaining to snow removal and ice control, as well as provides guidelines for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists in regards to safe traveling and parking on campus during the winter.

Snow removal and ice control operations are conducted by Facilities Services on campus, with input and recommendations from Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) in regards to university parking lots/streets. Facilities Services goal pertaining to snow removal on campus is as follows:

To meet the transportation and mobility needs of the campus community, while working with available resources to maximize safety and ensure daily university operations continue to function successfully.

Keeping this goal in mind, priorities have been set to make snow removal efforts as efficient and effective as possible. In order for snow removal efforts to be efficient and effective, cooperation from the campus community is required.

The following key points address ways that the campus community can assist in a safe and effective snow removal program:

1. **Respect snow plow drivers** and equipment; snow plow vehicles always have the right of way, whether you are driving near them or walking near them, always give snow removal equipment plenty of room
2. **Wear appropriate winter footwear** and/or cleats to ensure safe pedestrian travel across campus
3. **Understand** that Facilities snow removal crew is operating with limited resources and is working as fast as possible to safely clear snow and ice from campus sidewalks, streets, parking lots, and building entrances
 - If a large amount of snow continues to accumulate, it may take several days to fully complete snow removal in all areas, including sanding, rocking, and other ice control measures
4. **Motorists:** if a snow plow is working in a parking lot upon your arrival **DO NOT** park in a space within that lot that has not yet been plowed; you should do one of the following:
 - Leave the lot and find parking in the next available plowed lot
 - Wait until the lot is plowed to enter and park
 - If possible, find a space in the lot that has already been plowed, furthest away from where the snow plow is working

5. **Motorists** who park overnight on campus in Gold, Red, or Blue lots: understand and follow the overnight parking regulations during snow conditions outlined by PTS:
 - Overnight parking areas are restricted to specific spaces in specific parking lots when there is snow on the ground
 - An Overnight Parking During Snow Conditions map can be found on the PTS website at [Parking & Transportation Services – Campus Maps](#)
 - Citations may be issued to vehicles parked outside of the designated overnight parking areas and vehicles may be towed at owners expense as snow conditions warrant
6. **Motorists** should always minimize their impact or obstruction on snow removal operations. Motorists can help minimize parking lot snow removal costs as follows:
 - DO NOT park in a manner that hinders efficient snow removal (see number 4 above)
 - Overnight parkers should only park in areas designated for overnight parking during snow conditions, vehicles parked outside of these areas are hindering efficient snow removal (see number 5 above)
7. **Bicyclists:** DO NOT park bicycles on handrails or anywhere outside of designated bicycle racks, doing so may obstruct snow plow access and ability to sufficiently clear an area, always park bikes at designated bike racks
8. **In the event of a university closure**, if it is not absolutely necessary for you to be on campus, please stay at home; on university closure days Facilities Services crews will be working hard to clear campus of snow and ice so that regular university business can resume as soon as possible
9. **Understand who to contact** if you have questions/comments regarding snow conditions on campus, as follows:
 - **General Education building entryways** – contact Facilities Services at 885-6246 or email facilities@uidaho.edu
 - **Non-General Education building entryways** (Housing, SUB, Commons, Kibbie Dome, SRC) – non-general education management units are responsible for clearing building entries and pushing snow to a point where it can be reached by walkway plows; contact the main phone number for the unit in which you have questions/comments
 - **Sidewalks** – contact Facilities Services at 885-6246 or email facilities@uidaho.edu
 - **Streets on campus** – contact Facilities Services at 885-6246 or email facilities@uidaho.edu
 - **Parking lots** – contact PTS at 885-6424 or email parking@uidaho.edu

Snow Removal and Ice Control on SIDEWALKS and ENTRYWAYS

When one inch or more of snow accumulates on the campus sidewalks, the Facilities Services sidewalk crew will be dispatched to begin snow removal operations. Efforts are made to keep sidewalks, steps, entryways, and disability ramps clear of ice and snow throughout the entire working day. Priorities for clearing of sidewalks and entryways are as follows:

1. Main arterial sidewalks, bike paths, and walkways
2. Secondary and tertiary sidewalks
3. Steps, entryways, and disability ramps
 - Facilities Services advises individuals with disabilities to fill out a Snow Removal Route Information sheet with Disability Support Services, this information will be incorporated into regular plowing routes as time and resources allow

Snow Removal and Ice Control on CAMPUS STREETS and PARKING LOTS

Campus streets and parking lots are separated into areas; Facilities Services street and parking lot crew will be dispatched to begin snow removal within their assigned area once a significant amount of snow accumulates. Certain lots can only be plowed by a certain type of snow removal vehicle; dependent on size, layout, and design of the parking lot. The areas have been determined based on the type of snow removal vehicle used to clear specific lots. Within each area the parking lots have been prioritized by PTS, in the preferred order that they be plowed. Priorities have been determined based on lot color, lot utilization and maximizing the efficiency of snow removal operations.

IMPORTANT items that the campus community should anticipate:

1. During periods of extended snow accumulation, when melt-off does not occur quickly, there are very few places to push snow; it is anticipated that large snow berms will impact the following areas:
 - **Parking lots;** snow piles may take up a few parking spaces in some lots, parking restrictions may apply
 - **Streets;** lane widths may be reduced, street curbs may have piles of snow, parking restrictions may apply
 - **Bike racks;** certain bike rack locations are the only option for a place to pile snow, there will always be available bike racks on campus in the winter season, bicyclists will be expected to find the next nearest available bike rack
2. Due to limited resources, it is not feasible to collect snow and haul it away, once the weather warms snow removal crews will consolidate snow piles and impacted areas will be available for use again
3. Sand and deicers will be used on sidewalks, steps, and other pedestrian areas; sand containers will be placed around campus, this sand is available for use by anyone to spread in areas that immediately need more traction

4. Facilities Services will make frequent observations of sidewalks, entryways, stairs, parking lots, and streets to ensure adequate travel routes are being maintained as much as possible
5. Ice buildup on buildings will be monitored and corrective action will be taken when necessary to prevent hazardous conditions

Parking during Winter Break

In order to allow for proper street clearing, overnight parking (2 a.m. to 6 a.m.) is NOT allowed on university or city streets within campus boundaries during the winter break. On-campus residents who will be leaving their vehicle on campus must park in a Purple or Silver residential parking lot (off-street).