

**Village of Somerset**  
**Department of Public Works**  
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*Home of the Apple River*

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*Robert Gunther, Water/Parks Supervisor*  
*Robert Weldon, Sewer/Streets Supervisor*

In an effort for Village personnel to provide efficient and effective service during winter months the following policies and ordinances have been established.

**Winter Parking Restrictions:**

Parking on any street within the Village of Somerset is **prohibited between the hours of 2:30am – 6:00am from November 15<sup>th</sup> thru April 1<sup>st</sup>** of the following year. Any vehicle left on the street will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense. Ord. #10-1-28

**Street Plowing:**

The Public Works Department attempts to plow all village streets within 24 hours of a normal 2"-6" snow fall. Additional time may be needed to clear snow from streets for amounts over 6". During freezing rain and ice events, road conditions will be monitored by the Public Works and Police Departments. Streets will be plowed/salted based on traffic volume. Higher traffic roads will be given priority and lower traffic, residential roads will follow. Cul-de-sac plowing will be the final step in clearing the roads of snow and ice. During heavy snow falls and peak traffic flow every attempt will be made to keep the driving lanes of village streets passable, curb-to-curb plowing will be done after the cessation of the snow.

To lessen environmental impact, driving lanes may be plowed after snowfalls of 1". By doing this crews use less salt and sand on streets which in turn does not enter the storm water system.

**Sidewalks:**

The village plows snow from designated sidewalks to assist with children walking to school. These sidewalks are reviewed by the Village Board annually. In addition, all sidewalks in the village are to be kept clear of snow, sleet and ice by the owner/occupant of the property. If you do not comply with this after 24 hours of a snow/ice event, the Public Works Dept. will remove the snow from the sidewalk and you will be charged. Ord. # Sec.6-2-7

**Mailboxes:**

If a mailbox is tipped or knocked over by the snow during plowing operations it is the responsibility of the resident to make repairs. If a properly installed mailbox is physically hit or damaged by village equipment and personnel it shall be the responsibility of the village to make repairs or replace the mailbox. If a mailbox is to be replaced it will be replaced with a standard postal approved mailbox. Mailboxes also have height requirements; please check with the Post Office to make sure your mailbox meets these requirements.

**Residents are responsible for keeping their mailbox cleared of snow for postal deliveries.**

Boulevards/Right-of-ways:

Village code prohibits intrusions in boulevards and right-of-ways (ROW) on village streets without Village Board approval. This includes any type of landscaping, boulders, posts, fences, improperly installed mailboxes, irrigation systems and other substantial objects in the ROW. If your lawn (grass/sod) is damaged by village equipment, crews will make repairs with black dirt and grass seed in the spring.

Garbage/Recycling Containers:

Please do not place containers in the street during a snow fall or until your road is plowed curb-to-curb. Containers can be left in your driveway or behind the curb line and still be accessible for pick-up.

Fire Hydrants:

Residents are encouraged to assist village crews in clearing snow from around fire hydrants. It may take the village several days to clear snow from hydrants throughout the village. If possible we ask that you clear an area of 5 feet around the hydrant to allow adequate access by the Fire Department. If you have any type of landscaping around a hydrant in your yard the village assumes no responsibility if it is damaged by village equipment during snow removal.

Safety:

It is unsafe and illegal to place snow from your property onto a village street. This creates a traffic hazard and increases the time it takes to plow streets. This includes plowing snow from your property across the street as well. Ord. #6-2-7

Please allow a safe distance when following or approaching snow removal equipment. During plowing operations, plows create a cloud of snow and plow drivers may not be able to see cars that are following too closely. These plows are stopping, turning and backing up frequently so visibility is important. Remember if you can't see the mirrors on a snow plow, then the driver can't see you either.

We hope this information is helpful in explaining snow removal policies within the Village of Somerset. If you have any questions or concerns please contact one of the following phone numbers:

Village Hall: 715-247-3395  
Public Works: 715-247-5555  
Police Dept: 715-247-3319