

# **AGCCA Snow Plowing Q & A**

## **In Snow, and Ice, and Dead of Night...**

Snow and ice control operations are a major priority of the AGCCA Home Owners Association during the winter season. Winter storms impact all residents. The health, safety, and welfare of the community is reliant upon the ability, skill, and dedication of the snow removal contractor to promptly and effectively respond during these storm events to keep our roadways reasonably safe for travel.

**Below are some frequently asked questions regarding snow and ice control operations.**

## **WHEN ARE STREETS PLOWED?**

Plowing operations commence when the snow begins to accumulate and temperatures indicate that no melting will occur. The extent of the response to a snow event will be determined by the AGCCA snow removal contractor based on existing weather conditions, pavement temperatures, time of day, and forecast.

## **WHY DO WE USE ROAD SALT?**

Salting is necessary to accelerate snow melt and prevent melted snow from turning to ice. Once ice forms and becomes bonded to the pavement, it becomes very difficult to remove.

## **WHY IS SNOW PILED ON MY CORNER?**

Snow that accumulates across the side road at an intersection must be pushed back to allow visibility and to clear the entire street radius so vehicles may turn off of or onto a roadway. The snowplow operator will typically push snow onto the corner in the direction the truck is traveling. Depending on route design and the flow of traffic, some corners may get more snow than others. It is not practical to equally distribute snow on opposite corners.

If there is an accumulation of snow at a corner where there is a bus stop, children may need to move up the street in order to board the school bus. Please instruct children not to climb on the piles that have accumulated at the corners.

## **WHY IS SNOW ALWAYS LEFT AT THE END OF MY DRIVEWAY?**

While it's frustrating to shovel your driveway only to have the plow come by and push snow back at the base, it is not feasible to plow the street so that your driveway remains completely "snow free." Roadway design, the type of equipment that is utilized and the severity of snow events all factor into the size of the windrow left in the plow's wake. This problem is magnified in cul-de-sacs because there is

often limited parkway space for snow storage and centrifugal force causes the snow to move off of the plow toward the outside of the circle.

To minimize snow deposits at the end of your driveway, try not to create large piles of snow in the parkway on the upstream side of the driveway and never shovel, blow or plow snow into the street.

## **WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?**

The following tips, when followed, help ensure snow and ice control operations proceed smoothly:

### **When clearing driveways, do not shovel, blow or plow snow onto the roadway**

- When it starts to snow, remove your vehicle from the street. This allows crews to clear the entire roadway and prevents the car from being plowed in, ticketed, or towed.
- Please try to clear the snow around fire hydrants. This simple step could save precious time during an emergency.
- Please remove portable basketball hoops, benches and decor from the street right-of-way. The snow removal contractor is not responsible for damage to these items resulting from our snow removal operations.
- Check that your mailbox and post are in good repair and that they are behind the curb, not leaning out over the street. For specifications on mailbox placement, please reference the United States Post Office website.