

The Snow Code

Advice for Clearance



Advice on clearing snow and ice from the pavements yourself

You should not be put off clearing paths yourself because you are afraid someone will get injured. There is no law stopping you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your home or business. It is unlikely you will be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries on the path if you have cleared it carefully. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have responsibility to be careful themselves.

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- Clear the snow or ice early in the day - it is easier to move fresh, loose snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it.
 - Move the snow onto a porous surface such as grass verge or garden or along the kerb away from the drains.
 - Do not move snow to a location where it will create another risk such as another part of the pavement, road or where people are likely to walk.
 - Cover the cleared path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight.
 - Use salt or sand - not water - you can use ordinary table or dishwasher salt - a tablespoon for each square metre you clear should work.
 - Offer to clear your neighbours' paths and check that any elderly or disabled neighbours are alright in the cold weather.

Equipment Required for the Task of Snow Clearance

- A snow shovel or snow pusher (or a hard edged shovel for compacted ice).
- Salt, sand or grit (to stop the surfaces from refreezing).
- A bucket to collect, store and move grit.

West Sussex County Council Highways department will supply 1 tonne hippo bags for the Parish Council to deploy to agreed locations within the Village and hamlets for local residents and shop keepers to use. Check Parish Council notice boards and Parish Council website for details of their locations.

Website - <http://www.rudgwick-pc.org.uk/>

Severe Weather - Scale of the problem

With almost 2,500 miles of public roads and 2,567 miles of footways in West Sussex, the County Council has the task of maintaining them in adverse weather conditions, which requires a huge effort. To treat all public roads & footways by hand or machine would prove to be too costly, uneconomical and resource -intensive, and therefore roads & pavements are prioritised to ensure that the most important areas are treated.

Roles and responsibilities

West Sussex County Council (WSSC) is responsible for road gritting and snow clearance across the Horsham District. WSSC's main objective is to keep major routes treated and passable during adverse weather conditions. These are generally all 'A' roads, most of the 'B' roads and other roads of local importance, such as bus routes and roads to large schools and hospitals.

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It is a WSCC policy to clear snow as soon as possible from all heavily used pedestrian areas. Footways around schools, hospitals, pedestrian crossings, subways, bus stops, railway stations and cycle ways are cleared at the discretion of WSCC and in partnership with District and Borough Councils. Horsham District Council (HDC) is prepared and ready to assist with footway and pavement clearance on behalf of WSCC and have identified priority routes across the district that will need particular treatment. As this is not HDC's responsibility we are limited with the resources we can deploy in undertaking this task.

The Need for Community Self Help and Snow Clearance.

It is impossible for all roads and pavements to be cleared and treated by WSCC & HDC during adverse weather. The best way to ensure that as many pavements as possible are treated quickly is through self help and community spirit. HDC fully support the task of self help and snow clearance and would ask individuals to clear their driveways, access roads and pavements outside their homes and businesses. This shared response will free up Council resources and allow council workers to concentrate on the remaining priority pavement network and deal with the more vulnerable members of our community who may need our help.

- 1. If you can help with snow clearance around the village such as to the doctors or to the shops.**
- 2. If you can help with snow clearance around the area you live in.**
- 3. If you think you will need assistance during adverse weather conditions please contact,**

The Parish Office 01403 822678 or email clerk@rudgwickpc.co.uk.

Post or hand deliver to Rudgwick Village Hall, Bucks Green, Rudgwick, West Sussex RH12 3JJ.

Name

Address

Tel No

