

VILLAGE OF SOLDIERS GROVE PO BOX 121

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To the Residents of Soldiers Grove,

As we are preparing for another Wisconsin winter, we want to take a moment to share an important update regarding snow and ice removal on sidewalks throughout the Village.

In the past, the Village has taken on the responsibility of plowing and clearing sidewalks for our residents. While we were glad to be able to offer this service, starting this winter season, we will be following Ordinance 180-5 as written and adopted by the Village.

This means that residents, property owners, and occupants are now responsible for clearing the sidewalks adjacent to their property. This change is intended to promote safety, fairness, and accountability across the community.

What Ordinance 180-5 requires:

A. Responsibility for snow and ice removal; noncompliance; charges. [Amended 1-3-2013 by Ord. No. 2013-01]

- The owner, occupant or person in charge of a property abutting a street shall clean the sidewalk abutting such lot of snow or ice to the full width of such sidewalk within 24 hours after cessation of snowfall and shall cause the same to be kept free from snow or ice; provided that when ice has so formed on any sidewalk that it cannot be removed, said owner, occupant or person in charge shall keep the same sprinkled with sand, salt or a nonslip substance.
- 2. Noncompliance; Village action. In cases where any sidewalk remains covered in any part with snow or ice longer than 24 hours after the cessation of the most recent snowfall, the Public Works Director may cause such snow or ice to be removed from the full width of such sidewalk and to report the date when, and address where, such work was done to the Village Treasurer, who shall insert the following amount in the tax list, thereafter to be made as a special charge against the property abutting such sidewalk, which shall be collected as other taxes upon real estate are collected. The

Public Works Director may contract, as required, to complete the removal of snow and/or ice.

- A. Sidewalk charges:
- 1. First time shoveled: \$50;
- 2. Second time shoveled during the same winter: \$75;
- 3. Third and subsequent time shoveled during the same winter: \$100.
- B. Penalty. A separate offense shall be deemed committed during each hour or part thereof during which a violation occurs or continues.

We understand this is a change from the past practice and may take some adjustment. However, keeping our sidewalks clear and safe helps protect our neighbors, especially children, seniors, and those with mobility challenges.

We encourage everyone to plan ahead, whether by taking care of it personally, coordinating with a neighbor, or hiring a local service. Your cooperation helps keep Soldiers Grove safe and walkable for all residents throughout the winter season.

If you have any questions about the ordinance or need assistance understanding what's required, please feel free to reach out to the Village Office at 608-624-3264 or sgrove@mwt.net.

Thank you for your continued care and pride in our community. Let's work together to keep Soldiers Grove safe and welcoming—even when the snow flies!

Warm regards,

Kaitlynn Ott Kaitlynn Ott

Village Clerk/Treasurer