

NOTICE TO COE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS



Winter is just around the corner – or is already here to stay? Whichever, Coe Township Highway Department is preparing to start their snow removal season. We would like to share some information with you in order for us to preform our jobs of clearing snow from our streets and roads in a timely and more economical way.

Coe Township is dedicated to doing the best job of snow removal possible, within the restrains of reasonable costs. By its nature, there will always be someone who is plowed first or last. We operate on a route designed to best utilize our equipment and give the best service possible. Conditions such as: When the snow starts and stops, how wet or deep, the temperature and or how windy and the direction. These factors all affect the timing, the method, and success of the snow removal. There are times when it is just impossible to make any progress and instead of jeopardizing the crews we may delay or pull off the roads. And there may be times and conditions where we only plow to keep certain roads open for special needs. Even if the roads are not fully open we will make every effort to get our residents out and emergency vehicles in. Your understanding and cooperation is very important to our efforts. With even the best planning and efforts, there are still things that go wrong. If you need report special problems, Please call (309)523-2495. Snow crews operate all

hours of the day or night, so patience and understanding can go a long way. Below are some specific issues you may need to deal with from time to time.

OBSTRUCTIONS: Some residents like to landscape their yards close to the roads. For the safety of our snowplow crews, items such as rocks, bushes, fences, hedge walls, timbers and others should **NOT** be placed on township right-of-ways. Homeowners who have such items may be liable for any damages or injuries that these objects may cause. You should be aware that there are rather deep right-of-ways along our roads which the homeowner does not own. Any installation or work that is done on the right-of-way requires a permit from the township before work is started. These right-of-ways serve many purposes including the ability of our plow crews to push the snow back several feet to make room for other snowfall and also giving more time during drifting before the road is blocked. Damage to any obstruction or object (railroad ties, rocks, posts of any kind, fences, boulders, cars etc.) on the right-of-way will be the responsibility of the homeowner, as these obstructions are in violation of State Statues.

MAILBOXES: Winter is hard on mailboxes. By their nature, they are in conflict with efforts to clear snow from our highways. At times, heavy snow or slush discharged from a plow will knock down a mailbox. Most mailboxes, if properly placed and installed, will withstand this type of snow. In this case the township will **NOT** be responsible for the mailboxes knocked down by heavy snow or slush. There are times, during difficult winter conditions we may knock a mailbox down. In the event that damage is caused by a plow, a supervisor will investigate the claim. Upon finding a Coe Township snowplow at fault and providing the mailbox complies with postal regulations, the township will repair the mailbox, or replace mailbox/post if necessary, with a standard wooden post and box according to postal regulations (sorry, no fancy replacement). Each property owner is responsible for the condition of their mailbox and the approaches to them. Poorly maintained mailboxes may be lost to conditions other than damage by a plow. The homeowner is responsible for all damage other than a plow striking the mailbox.

DRIVEWAY: An unavoidable result of plowing snow is a ridge of snow along the road and at the end of driveways. Operators do what they can do to minimize this when possible. You can help yourself by piling the snow you clear from the driveway to the right side (the side away from approaching traffic). This will minimize the snow ridge on your drive. NOTE: Redistributing the snow from your driveway to the road is prohibited.

CUL-DE-SACS: are wonderful peaceful places to live, but you will have to pay an additional price for your privacy. They are difficult to plow and cause many problems for the homeowner. Please be understanding of the additional problems they cause for snow removal crews.

STUCK VEHICLES: Please do not ask or expect us to assist in pulling out stuck vehicles, we do not accept the liability nor do we have the proper equipment to do this. You should be prepared to call a local towing service should you get stuck.

For those of you who are newcomers, especially from cities or southern states, you should make yourself aware of the differences in conditions, removal methods and in responsibilities. There are a number of government agencies responsible for roads within Rock Island County. Knowing who to contact for a road problem could help expedite any problems you may experience. Coe Township is a rural community that may dictate harsher snow conditions for both the resident and snow removal crew. Your proper preparation and driving techniques will help avoid problems for everyone.

For further information please contact your local road Commisisoner

Richard Mitton @ 309-523-2495 work, 309-314-4027 Cell

E-mail: coetownshiproads@g-mail.com