



POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR FROZEN WATER AND SEWER LINES

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to determine responsibility and a course of action for managing frozen water and sewer lines to ensure that the residents of the City of Winsted receive the best service possible for the water and sewer utilities while maintaining fiscal prudence, environmental concerns, and safety.

Responsibilities:

The City will be responsible for the following:

1. Frozen water and sewer mains and damage caused by the frozen water or sewer mains.
2. Frozen lateral water lines from the water main to the stand pipe.
3. None frozen sewer lateral lines.

Course of Action:

In the event that only one property is experiencing stoppage of water or sewer service, the City will presume that it is a problem with a lateral line until evidence demonstrates otherwise. An inspection by a licensed professional plumber using thawing equipment is the only evidence that the City will consider to determine that the lateral line problem is on City property or that a water main is frozen.

If multiple property owners are experiencing frozen water lines in a manner that suggests the main may be frozen, the City will investigate to determine if the main is frozen.

If a licensed plumber reasonably determines that a lateral line on City property is frozen, or if the City determines that a main is frozen, the City will begin work on the main or lateral line as soon as possible. This will be considered an emergency and will not require City Council approval under the emergency provision of the Purchasing Policy. The City will first try hot water to thaw the line, but excavation may be required in extreme circumstances.

The City may deviate from this policy from time to time as it sees fit.

Snow Removal Reminders...

Keeping our sidewalks free of ice and snow is the neighborly thing to do, and it's the law. For your own benefit and to help your neighbors, people pushing strollers or using wheelchairs, and the many people in Winsted who walk, please do your part.

When you remove snow and ice...

- * The occupant of a building or lot is responsible for the removal of snow and ice from the public sidewalks to make them safe for pedestrian travel.
- * Shovel the sidewalks on all sides of your property, the full width of the sidewalk down to the cement or pavement.
- * Remove all ice from sidewalks. After the sidewalk is cleared, sprinkling a little sand can help prevent slipping on frosty sidewalks.
- * Pile snow into your yard and boulevard. It's against the law to shovel snow onto streets and alleys.
- * If you have a corner property, clear curb cuts at corners and crosswalks to the street gutter. You are not required to clear snow ridges or piles left by the plows *beyond* the gutter – City crews sometimes return to do that, but if they can't, your neighbors would appreciate it if you could clear an opening to get through.
- * Clear any snow and ice around fire hydrants that are located on or near your property. By doing so, you are providing easier access for the Fire Department to respond to a fire in your neighborhood.

Other reminders...

- * You are responsible for clearing ice on your sidewalk, as well as a snow. Ice can be more dangerous and intimidating than snow.
- * The sooner and more completely you shovel, the less likely ice will form.
- * Be sure to arrange for someone to shovel while you are on vacation.



Attention Dog Owners!

According to Winsted City ordinance, **all** dogs over the age of four (4) months must be licensed in the City of Winsted. This license is valid January 1st through December 31st of each year and must be renewed each calendar year. The cost is \$10 per license.

For new licenses, a dog license application is available on the City's website at www.winsted.mn.us, or at Winsted City Hall. In order to receive a 2015 dog license, a completed application must be accompanied by a current rabies vaccination certificate, with the date that the rabies vaccination expires.

If your dog was licensed in 2014, you do not need to complete a new application. A renewal notice for your pet is available at City Hall. You will only need to provide a current rabies vaccination certificate with your dog license fee.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please contact City Hall at (320) 485-2366 with any questions.

