

# The Arlington Report

## Snow & Ice - City's Role & Your Role

The City of Arlington believes it is in the best interest of the residents for the City to assume basic responsibility for control of snow and ice on city streets. Reasonable ice and snow control is necessary for routine travel and emergency services. The City will provide such control in a safe and cost-effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel, and environmental concerns.

When does the City start snow or ice control operations?

*The criteria for that decision are:*

- A) Snow accumulation of 2 inches or more.
- B) Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel;
- C) Ice conditions which seriously affect travel; and
- D) Time of snowfall in relationship to heavy use of streets.



Snow and ice control operations are expensive and involve the use of limited personnel and equipment. The City will use city employees, equipment, and/or private contractors to provide this service. Consequently, snowplowing operations will not generally be conducted for snowfall of less than 2 inches. They will be conducted only when weather conditions do not endanger the safety of city employees and equipment. In times of extreme snowfall, streets will not always immediately be able to be completely cleared of snow. Several factors may delay snow and ice control operations. The City's intention is to keep streets open to traffic, if possible, during a storm; however, it is not the intent to keep them snow or ice free.

The City's intent is that:

- All designated priority streets shall be open to traffic (two lanes) within 12 hours after the snowstorm subsides.*
- All remaining through streets shall be open to traffic (two lanes) within 36 hours after the snowstorm subsides.*
- All public streets, including alleys, shall be open to traffic (one lane) within 60 hours after a snowstorm subsides.*

Plowing of private property with city equipment is restricted, unless snow removal is not being done in accordance with City Ordinance or unless emergency vehicles need access. There shall be no plowing of private grass alleys areas with city equipment.

### What is my role as a home / business owner?

The City requires that residents park all vehicles and trailers off public roadways [City Ordinance 216.4] until they are plowed from curb to curb or they will be ticket and will be towed and impounded at the owner's expense.

**Sidewalks:** Property owners should also remember that the City Code requires that all snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 12 hours after snow or ice has ceased.

Please remember that snow and ice that is removed from driveways and sidewalks is not to be placed in any public street This is counterintuitive to the above cleaning process and cities budget.

**We appreciate your help in keeping roadway and sidewalks safe and clear.**

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Rich Nagel  
 Council Members  
 Michelle Battcher  
 Craig Buss  
 Joe Morgan  
 Matthew Scharpe  
 John Thomes

### APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Amy Newsom -- City Administrator  
 Lisa Tesch -- Deputy Clerk  
 Amy Newsom -- (Acting) Planning & Zoning Administrator  
 Haile Tegegne-- City Intern  
 Denyse Aldrich -- Admin. Asst. & Community Center Coord.  
 Kirby Weckworth - Maint. Supervisor  
 Daniel Hughes-- Maint. Worker  
 Andrew Konechne -- Police Chief  
 Sara Daily -- Police Officer  
 James Noxon -- Police Officer  
 Bailey Holasek -- Police Officer  
 Vicki Pomplum -- PD Admin. Asst.

### CONTRACTED SERVICES

Ross Arneson -- City Attorney  
 Darin Haslip -- Building Inspector  
 PeopleService -- Water/Wastewater  
 Jason Femrite (Bolton & Menk) -- City Engineer

### PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall: 964-2378  
 Fax Line: 964-5973  
 After-Hours On-Call:  
 507-327-6601  
 Fire Garage: 964-2279  
 Police Dept.: 964-5200  
 Library: 964-2490  
 Hospital: 964-2271  
 S.E. School: 964-2292  
 Post Office: 964-5503

### OTHER SERVICES

*Water/Sewer/Electric Services*  
 City of Arlington (507-964-2378)  
*Gas Service*  
 CenterPoint Energy (800-245-2377)  
*Cable Service*  
 Mediacom (800-332-0245)  
*Internet/Phone Service*  
 Frontier (800-435-1504)  
*Garbage Services*  
 Waste Management (800-422-5785)  
 Renville-Sibley Sanitation  
 (866-800-6244)

### City Recycling Dates:

13th & 27th 8:00 -11:00am

Friend or Foe - Chloride or Salt ?

See the insert included with this months utility bill for suggestions that will help in your home. What type of softener does your house use? Do you use high-efficiency appliances and faucets/ showers?



Still  
 Going  
 Strong?

### PERMITS

Are you planning on doing some Home Improvements in 2021? Permit applications are available on-line or in person at the City Office. If any digging is planned you need to contact Gopher State One Call, who will make sure all utility lines get marked in your project area.

### FYI:

Right of Way Permits have been issued to Mediacom Minnesota, LLC for improvements on the cabling system in the Arlington area. Work is scheduled to be preformed during the two month period between February 1st and April 2nd of 2021.



Come Skate  
 The warming-house is open 4pm -7pm.

## City of Arlington, Sibley County

Contact us at:  
204 Shamrock Drive  
Arlington, MN 55307

Phone: 507-964-2378  
Fax: 507-964-5973  
E-mail: [cityhall@arlingtonmn.com](mailto:cityhall@arlingtonmn.com)  
Website: [www.arlingtonmn.com](http://www.arlingtonmn.com)  
Follow us on Facebook



### February City Council Meetings

Monday 2/1 and  
Tuesday 2/16 @ 6:30pm  
Attend in person or by calling in.

The City Office will be closed:  
Monday 2/15 in observance of

### *President's Day*



### Committee Meetings in February:

Planning & Zoning on 2/4 at 7pm  
EDA on 2/8 at 5:30pm  
Community Center on 2/11 at 5:30pm  
Ambulance/Fire/Township on 2/11 7:00pm  
Library on 2/17 at 5:30pm (Library)  
Fire Relief on 2/24 at 6:30pm (Fire Hall)

### *February is*



*American Heart Health Month*

### 2021 Electric Rebates

Are you adding/replacing appliances or lighting to your home or business?  
2021 Residential and Commercial energy efficient rebates are available. Rebate application forms are on the City website [www.arlingtonmn.com](http://www.arlingtonmn.com) or contact the City Office for more information.

# The City of ARLINGTON

## Accepting Applications

# Arlington Ambulance



The City of Arlington is accepting applications for Arlington Ambulance. PAID training to get your EMT certificate with 1 year commitment to the City of Arlington. Must be 18 years old.

-Minimum, hour requirement 72 hours/month, 12 of which have to be on the weekend (6pm on Friday to 6am Monday)  
-Minimum of 8 training meetings a year

If you are interested please stop by the Arlington City Offices to pick up an application or you can find it online at [www.arlingtonmn.com/careers](http://www.arlingtonmn.com/careers)

### Arlington Community Center

The Community Center is open for rental. We have both a safety plan and cleaning policy for safety in place. You can seat up to 135 people and use our kitchen to serve them, while you enjoy time with family and friends with a peace of mind. Contact Denyse for pricing and availability. Call 507-964-2378 opt 1 or email her at [daldrich@arlingtonmn.com](mailto:daldrich@arlingtonmn.com) today.



### COLD WEATHER RULE

The City of Arlington's Cold Weather Rule goes into effect October 15th through April 15th. The Cold Weather Rule does not prohibit winter shut off. So if you receive a disconnection notice, **act promptly** by contacting the City of Arlington at 507-964-2378. If you are having trouble paying your utility bill, local agencies may be able to provide payment assistance.

The City of Arlington recommends calling one of the following:

-MINNESOTA VALLEY ACTION COUNCIL  
Sibley County office at 507-237-4000  
Mankato Regional office at 800-767-7139  
or

-SIBLEY COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES at  
507-237-4000  
or

-HEAT SHARE (Salvation Army) at  
888-999-1568

\*\*The Heat Share program is seeking donations to help our neighbors with heating season expenses. If possible please donate.

### PET TAGS

2021 City Pet Licenses are expected to arrive the last week of February.

According to City Code, all domestic pets (*dogs and cats*) must be licensed. 2020 licenses will expire March 31, 2021. Residents must provide a health certificate showing that the pet is current on its rabies vaccination and a pay a \$5.00 fee, per pet. Residents are encouraged to stop by the City Office before April 1st to obtain their 2021 pet licenses.

Licensing your pet aids in the return if it gets loose and is picked up by the police or a neighbor.

If you have lost (ran away, given away or passed away) pet within the last year, please notify the city office so we can remove that pet from our current list. ♥



Residents should also remember that pets are not permitted to run at large with-in the City limits. Pets must either be leashed or cabled / chained, kenneled or in a fenced yard and are not allowed to roam freely. They should also be able to find relief from the elements and have fresh water accessible.



Please remember to pick up after your pet.

### CITY ALERTS

How do you get alerts like Snow Emergency, power outages, and community issues? These are posted on our website and Facebook page.

However, if you are interested in receiving text or email alerts directly in the future, please submit:

•Your name, •home address,  
•cell phone #, and •email address  
to our email at [CityHall@arlingtonmn.com](mailto:CityHall@arlingtonmn.com).  
We are in the gathering mode, and hope to have a system in place later in 2021.



# CHLORIDE – SALT – FRIEND AND FOE

We need salt to live, but too much of a good thing can be harmful.



**Salt is ever-present in our everyday lives. We love it on French fries, tomatoes and on the rims of certain drinks. But, too much salt in our diets can be harmful, just as too much salt in our lakes and streams can harm aquatic life. Road ice-melt and water softeners are major culprits.**

## How is chloride harmful to the environment?

- Even low levels of chloride can have a negative effect on fish and insect productivity, even at lower levels.
- Road salt impacts land and wetland plants because they take it up through their roots and their community structure suffers.
- Salt-laden soil can lose its ability to retain water and store nutrients, making it prone to erosion and sediment runoff.
- Our pets are at risk of getting sick when they eat salt, lick it off their paws or drink salty snow melt/runoff. Their paw pads can become irritated as well.
- Some birds, like finches and house sparrows, can die from ingesting de-icing salt.



## The trouble with water softeners

It's not pleasant to have stiff clothes or dingy drinking glasses when the water coming into your home is too hard. Soft water can also extend the life of appliances and save on water and energy costs. But, it's important to know that water softeners produce chloride that can seep into groundwater from on-site septic systems and from wastewater treatment facilities that aren't designed to remove it, so that chloride can end up in rivers, lakes and streams where high levels of chloride are toxic to fish and aquatic life.

In some communities, the composition of the water calls for water softeners, but there are ways to know if one is really needed and what you can do about using a water softener.

**See the reverse for actions you can take to minimize the amount of chloride – salt – released into the ecosystem.**

