

Winter Maintenance

Building Owner's Responsibilities in the Downtown Boise BID

Snow Removal:

Property owners and first floor business owners are responsible for keeping sidewalks free and clear of snow and ice per Boise City Code 9-08-07, [7-5-5](#):

“Clear the sidewalks and gutters in front of property from snow, and keep conveniently free therefrom during the day, so as to allow citizens to use the sidewalks in an easy, safe and commodious manner.”

Best Practices:

- Clear doorways, and create a walkway a single blade width wide, approximately 36”, down sidewalks.
- Do not place snow around parking meters or access to vehicle parking.
- Snow should not be pushed into the street. This causes storm drains to clog and creates pools of water at pedestrian crosswalks.
- Keep any ice melt material out of tree wells and planting areas.
- Do not use rock salt or sand on any sidewalk surface especially brick.

Deicer:

A deicer is a substance that melts or prevents the formation of ice and does so by lowering the freezing point of water and preventing a bond between ice and paved surfaces. *Property owners and businesses owners are urged to use deicers sparingly such as:*

1) Calcium Chloride (CaCl):

- Works at temperatures down to -25°F
- Pros: Can use lower doses, no cyanide
- Cons: Chloride impact
- Application: About a handful is needed for every three-square yards. Calcium chloride melts ice faster than other deicers

2) Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA)

- Works at temperatures down to 22°F
- Pros: Less toxic
- Cons: Doesn't work at colder temperatures
- Application: should be applied early in a storm to prevent snow and ice bonding. CMA should be applied heavier in the first application and lighter as difficult weather continues.

Updated: 9/22/21

The deicing compound recommended and used by City of Boise is Ban Ice Thawing Compound by Sunrise Environmental Scientific which can be found at:

[https://www.sunrisenv.com/ban-ice.](https://www.sunrisenv.com/ban-ice)

Downtown Maintenance Team Snow Removal Assistance

When more than one inch of snow accumulates, the Downtown Maintenance Team (DMT) will assist with snow removal by plowing a single blade on sidewalks and crosswalks within the Business Improvement District. Snow will not be removed from either side of trees to minimize the risk of damage. Snow removal timing throughout downtown depends on weather conditions and resources. A major snow event will require everyone's assistance – and patience.

Safety becomes a priority on downtown sidewalks during and after snowfall. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining a safe downtown environment.

Maintenance Questions or Concern?

Contact Downtown Maintenance Team at dtmaintteam@cityofboise.org