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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“SNOW EMERGENCY” TIPS AND INFORMATION

Reminders from the City of Beloit Public Works Department, Police and Fire Departments

December 16, 2016 – The goal of the City of Beloit snow and ice control operation is to provide for the clearing and removal of ice and snow from city streets to ensure safe travel throughout the city. Residents of the City of Beloit play an important role in this endeavor. The following questions and answers outline some essential information we encourage residents to keep in mind during this snowy season, especially during the declaration of a snow emergency.

- Q. How do residents find out about declared Snow Emergencies?
A. The City of Beloit will post information about a snow emergency on the City’s website (www.beloitwi.gov), on the City’s Facebook page, and various news media.
- Q. During a declared snow emergency, why must vehicles be removed from the streets?
A. One of the most important reasons is “safety.” Keeping the streets clear of parked vehicles allows snow plows to efficiently clean the street and prevents the potential for accidents involving a snow plow. Plowed snow piled around a parked vehicle will harden and can cause damage to your vehicle. In some cases, if vehicles are left parked on narrow streets, plows will not be able to get through and the entire street will remain unplowed.
- Q. What if a vehicle remains parked on the street during a declared snow emergency?
A. The Police Department may tow away any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer found in violation of the Emergency Snow Removal Regulations.
- Q. Where can vehicles be parked during a declared snow emergency?
A. Designated emergency parking lots are marked with signage to help determine the parking areas.
- Krueger Park Upper (Hackett Street at House Street), East Lot
 - Krueger Golf Course (1611 Hackett Street), South Lot
 - Wootten Park (4th Street at Maple Avenue), Entire Lot
 - Rotary Center (1220 Riverside Drive), Between designated signs
 - Jones Shelter (access via Portland Avenue), Entire Lot
 - Angel Museum (565 Pleasant Avenue), North End of South Lot
 - Third Street (South Lot), West Side of Lot along Fourth Street
 - Third Street (North Lot), North end of Lot between designated signs
 - Ironworks (Fourth Street), Center area between designated signs
 - West Grand Avenue Lot (229 West Grand Ave.), Center area between designated signs
 - Telfer Park (2100 Cranston Road), South East area between designated signs

Q. Can snow be blown or shoveled off a driveway or sidewalk and into the street?

A. No. Moving snow onto streets and other sidewalks is prohibited by City Ordinance.

Q. Can snow be plowed out of a driveway and onto the neighbor's terrace?

A. No. The Snow and Ice Removal Ordinance prohibits removing snow from any private property and placing it in any street, alley, sidewalk, or private property of another person.

Q. After a snow fall, when does the snow need to be removed from the sidewalk?

A. The owner and occupant of any real estate in the City shall remove snow and ice from all sidewalks abutting the real estate within 48 hours after the snow, sleet or freezing rain stops. After such period of time passes, the city may remove snow and ice and the expense will be charged to the abutting property.

The Beloit Police and Fire Departments ask that residents keep driveway, sidewalk and steps shoveled and free of accumulated snow so that if the need arises, they are able to safely assist in an emergency.

Q. Who keeps the fire hydrants cleared of snow?

A. The Fire Department asks residents for assistance in clearing at least two feet around the perimeter of a fire hydrant that may be on the terrace. This would dramatically help firefighters in locating and hooking up to a fire hydrant in the case of a fire on or near the property.

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