

# Snow & Ice Advice

Follow the **SNOW CODE** when clearing snow and ice safely

The Government has been clear that there's no law stopping you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your home or from public spaces. It's unlikely you will be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries on the path if you have cleared it carefully.

## The **SNOW CODE** - tips on clearing snow and ice from pavements or public spaces

### Prevent slips

Pay extra attention to clear snow and ice from steps and steep pathways - you might need to use more salt on these areas.

If you clear snow and ice yourself, be careful - don't make the pathways more dangerous by causing them to refreeze. But don't be put off clearing paths because you're afraid someone will get injured.

Remember, people walking on snow and ice have responsibility to be careful themselves. Follow the advice below to make sure you clear the pathway safely and effectively.

### Clear the snow or ice early in the day

It's easier to move fresh, loose snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it. So if possible, start

removing the snow and ice in the morning. If you remove the top layer of snow in the morning, any sunshine during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight.

### Use salt or sand - not water

If you use water to melt the snow, it may refreeze and turn to black ice. Black ice increases the risk of injuries as it is invisible and very slippery. You can prevent black ice by spreading some salt on the area you have cleared. You can use ordinary table or dishwasher salt - a tablespoon for each square metre you clear should work.

Be careful not to spread salt on plants or grass as it may cause them damage.

If you don't have enough salt, you can also use sand or ash. These won't stop the path icing over as well as salt, but will provide good grip under foot.



## Take care where you move the snow

When you're shovelling snow, take care where you put it so it doesn't block people's paths or drains. Make sure you make a path down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on. Then shovel the snow from the centre of the path to the sides.

## Offer to clear your neighbours' paths

If your neighbour will have difficulty getting in and out of their home, offer to clear snow and ice around their property as well. Check that any elderly or disabled neighbours are alright in the cold weather. If you're worried about them, contact your local council.

## Getting the most out of your grit bin

If your grit bin needs refilling, let Lincolnshire County Council know by filling in this online form [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk) or by calling 01522 782070. Grit from the bins is only for use on pavements and roads – not driveways.

## Finding out which roads are gritted in the county

Look online to discover which roads are gritted by Lincolnshire County Council as a priority in the county [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk) or call 01522 782070 for a leaflet showing the route to be posted to you.

## During periods of snow and ice the District Council will aim to keep the following Car Parks clear from snow and ice:

- Alford – Market Place.
- Horncastle – St Lawrence Street and Market Place Car Parks.
- Louth – Queen Street, Town Hall, Meridian Leisure Centre, Northgate East, Cornmarket, Market Place and Kidgate.
- Mablethorpe – High Street Car Park.
- Skegness – Lawn Car Park (Hildreds), Embassy Car Park.
- Spilsby – Post Office Lane and Middle Market Place.
- Council operated car parks – Tesco, Horncastle and Co-op, Louth are contractually required to be kept free from ice and snow by the rental operator.

Lincolnshire County Council is responsible for treating roads during ice and snow. For information on the road gritting schedule, please visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk) and search 'Gritting'.

For more information visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) & search 'Snow & Ice'.