



Northern Region Blog

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

Driveway Snow Removal Dec. 15, 2014

Every year, we receive questions focused on two areas of driveway plowing:

- Is it OK to push snow from a driveway into the road? and
- Who is responsible for removing snow berms at driveway entrances?

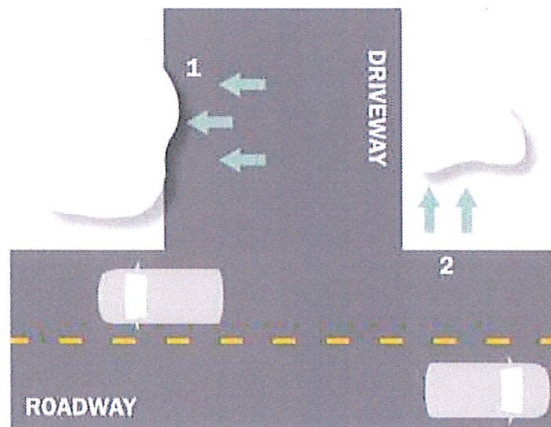
Both questions are covered under [section \(g\) of Alaska Statute 17 AAC 10.020](#). Here is a breakdown of what it means for residents:

Removing snow from driveways: Removing snow from driveways is the responsibility of the property owner. It is illegal to push snow into or across the road or right-of-way. Doing so creates hazards for those using the roadway and could create liability issues for the property owner.

The image below shows the recommended method of driveway snow removal for residents.

DRIVEWAY SNOW REMOVAL

Recommendations from the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities



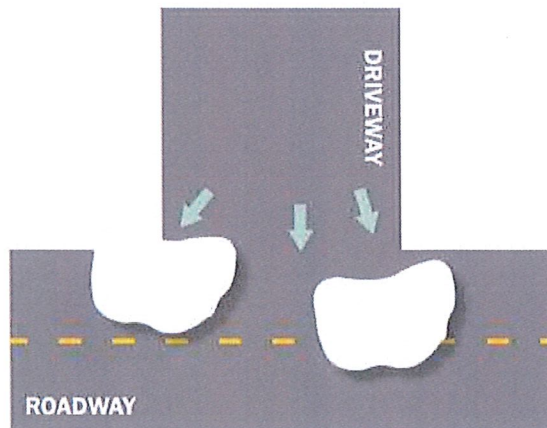
DO this

- 1 Move snow from your driveway onto your property:** Standing, facing the road, move snow over to the right side of your driveway.
- 2 And clear the area by the road on the left side of your driveway.** This gives plows a place to unload snow and helps reduce the chance of a snow berm being created across your driveway.

NOT this

Move snow from driveways into the road or right-of-way:

It's illegal to push snow into or across roadways and rights-of-way. This can create a hazard for people traveling the road, such as drivers, bikers and snow removal equipment operators, and can create liability issues for the property owner.



Snow berms blocking driveways: Our crews try whenever possible to avoid creating berms that block entrances and driveways.

Unfortunately, it is not always possible. If a snow berm created by snow removal efforts blocks a driveway, it is the responsibility of the property owner to remove it. Residents are also responsible for clearing the area around their mailbox.

— the city of Anchorage follows AK Statute on snow removal and driveway berms

as do all cities with city public works snow removal — and all states —

ABOUT IRRP

The Aniak Tribe has
added City streets to its
IRRP approved inventory —
Indian Reservation Roads Program

Native Village of Kluti-Kaah
Tl'at'icæ'e



"Where Two Rivers Meet"

to increase funding
for tribe

The BIA Roads program is available to provide snow plowing and minor road maintenance to village roads that are in the approved road inventory. The funding is specific and cannot be used to maintain private driveways or roads.

Currently the goal is to get a roads plan completed. It is equally important for Tribal Members to be involved in future planning to be informed of services and funding available, as well as any limitations imposed on services and funding.

P.L. 112-141 Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21):

"The Tribal Transportation Program provides \$450 million annually for projects that improve access to and within Tribal lands. This program generally continues the existing Indian Reservation Roads program, while adding new set-asides for tribal bridge projects (in lieu of the existing Indian Reservation Road Bridge program) and tribal safety projects. It continues to provide set-asides for program management and oversight and tribal transportation planning. A new statutory formula for distributing funds among tribes, based on tribal population, road mileage, and average funding under SAFETEA-LU, plus an equity provision, is to be phased in over a 4 year period.

MAP-21 also authorizes the Tribal High Priority Projects Program, a discretionary program modeled on an earlier program that was funded by set-aside from the Indian Reservation Roads Program. MAP-21 provides \$30 million per year from the General fund (subject to appropriation) for this new program. [1123]"

These funds are shared with over 500 tribes across the United States.

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Tribal Drive way assistance programs:

~~San Juan~~ Southern Paiute Tribe - through housing assistance programs

Designed by P.Ewan Designs.

Ho-Chunk Nation Elders assistance program for snow plowing
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Driveway Assistance Program

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Driveways Program

Chilkoot Indian Assoc. Purchased a skid steer loader w/ snow blower thru
a state AK CCED grant to clear driveways for Elder & disabled residents

Absentee Shawnee Driveway Assistance Program

> Tribal Transportation Program; Elders Services Programs; Housing Assistance