

SNOW REMOVAL GUIDE

City of Big Bear Lake
Public Works Department
www.citybigbearlake.com

Scan the QR code to sign up for our newsletter and to receive up to date information regarding winter snow removal:



SNOW PLOWING

Public Works crews begin plowing public streets when approximately three inches (3") of snow accumulates, and continue plowing throughout each winter storm. Our goal is to meet three (3) basic community safety and welfare needs:

- Maintain access to/for emergency services (Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement)
- Provide reasonably safe driving conditions throughout the winter months
- Maintain access to businesses and services

Every City of Big Bear Lake maintained public street is eventually plowed during heavy snowfall, and we ask that you please be patient during snow removal operations. Our crews work as quickly as they can during inclement weather. Typically, maintained public streets are plowed in the early morning hours, creating a snow berm at the street edge and across driveways each time a street is plowed. In order to avoid duplication of effort, we recommend delaying driveway shoveling until snow plows have passed, and significant additional snow accumulation is not anticipated. When driveways are shoveled, please deposit snow on the right driveway edge (facing the street). When all streets have been plowed and are safe for travel, crews begin reducing snow berms at residential driveways through our unique Berm Reduction Program (Information Below). Snow removal on SR 18 (Big Bear Blvd.) is performed by Caltrans, and berm reduction is not available to properties with driveways extending onto the highway.

BERM REDUCTION

City of Big Bear Lake residents are eligible for no-cost snow berm reduction. Snow berm reduction begins only after all maintained public streets have been made safe for travel, and additional heavy snowfall accumulation is not anticipated. Snow berm reduction may not begin for several hours after snowfall begins. Snow berms will not be completely eliminated. The goal of this free service is to reduce the burden of manual driveway snow removal for our residents. Only residential driveways clearly identified by unobstructed bright orange snow poles placed at the driveway edges are eligible for this program. Snow poles may be purchased at City Hall for a nominal fee. Residents are responsible for snow pole installation and maintenance.

TRASH RECEPTACLES

To reduce the likelihood of damage, place trash receptacles on private property, a safe distance behind the snow berm, for collection. Receptacles placed close to the street edge may be tipped over or damaged during snow plow operations.

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS NEAR ROADWAYS

Our snow plow operators make every effort to avoid improvements within public rights-of-way. Unfortunately, sprinkler systems, fences, block walls, landscaping, and other improvements are not always visible as snow accumulates. Plowing usually occurs before daylight so visibility is limited. We recommend the placement of tall (6' x 2" x 2") red stakes a minimum of 3' from the street edge to reduce the likelihood of damage. In the unlikely event of damage to personal property, contact Risk Management at (909) 866-5831 for assistance.

REGULATIONS, FINES AND CITATIONS

Although we make every effort to avoid towing, parked vehicles interfering with snow removal operations are subject to significant fines (\$400 per offense per Ordinance 2023-517), and may be towed and impounded. All fines, towing, and impoundment charges are the vehicle owner's responsibility.

Snow removed from private driveways or parking lots may not be dumped, deposited or placed or pushed into a city street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

When snow conditions are in effect, free overnight parking is available at two City parking lots located at 39707 Big Bear Blvd., known as the West Civic Center Parking Lot, and at the Alden Parking Lot located at 547 Alden Road.

Snow Condition Parking Regulations

Pursuant to the Big Bear Lake Municipal Code, Section 10.12 – Parking During Snow Conditions:

The City Council has declared that snow conditions exist in Big Bear Lake from October 15 of every calendar year until April 15 of the following calendar year, such that snow removal activity may be reasonably required with little to no advance notice. During this period, vehicles shall not be left stopped, parked, abandoned, or otherwise unattended on any City street. (Ordinance 2023-517)



Emergency & Important Phone Numbers:

24-HOUR SNOW REMOVAL HOTLINE (citybigbearlake.com)	(909) 752-2830
SNOW REMOVAL AND BERM REDUCTION ISSUES	(909) 866-7521
CITY CODE COMPLIANCE HOTLINE (24 HOUR)	(909)-866-2633
EMERGENCIES	911
SHERIFF'S DEPT. (NON-EMERGENCY)	(909) 866-0100
BIG BEAR FIRE DEPARTMENT (NON-EMERGENCY)	(909) 866-7566
BEAR VALLEY ELECTRIC SERVICE	(909) 866-4678
BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	(909) 866-6501
BIG BEAR LAKE PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.	(909) 866-7521
SOUTHWEST GAS	(877) 860-6020
DEPARTMENT OF WATER & POWER	(909) 866-5050
CALTRANS	(909) 383-4631