



CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

David J. Berger, Mayor

50 Town Square Lima, Ohio 45801-4900 419/228-5462 Fax 419/221-5214

SNOW REMOVAL POLICY

Resident Assistance

Residents can assist the snow removal process in several ways:

- Keep parked vehicles off of the street.
- Pile shoveled snow from driveways to the right of the driveway (as you face the street) or pile it in your yard area.
- Clear snow and ice from stormwater drains to help prevent flooding when the snow melts.
- When following snow plows, stay a safe distance behind.
- Under no circumstance should you attempt to pass a snow plow.
- Keep children away from snow plows.

Snow Emergency Classifications

A county sheriff may, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code sections 311.07 and 311.08, declare a snow emergency and temporarily close the state roads and municipal streets within his/her jurisdiction when such action is reasonably necessary for the preservation of the public peace. Ohio Attorney General's Opinion 97-015, issued April 1, 1997, concluded that this authority includes state roads, county and township roads and municipal streets.

Any person who knowingly hampers or fails to obey a lawful order of the sheriff declaring a snow emergency and temporarily closing highways, roads and/or streets within his/her jurisdiction may be subject to criminal prosecution under Ohio Revised Code Section 2917.13, "Misconduct at an emergency" or other applicable law or ordinance. A violation under that section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, punishable by a jail sentence not to exceed 30 days and/or a fine not to exceed \$250. If the misconduct creates a risk of physical harm to persons or property, it is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable by a jail sentence not to exceed 180 days and/or a fine not to exceed \$1,000.

LEVEL 1: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be icy. Motorists are urged to drive very cautiously.

LEVEL 2: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be very icy. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roads. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work. Motorists should use extreme caution.

LEVEL 3: All roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one should be driving during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel or a personal emergency exists. All employees should contact their employer to see if they should report to work. Those traveling on the roads may subject themselves to arrest.