

Streets - Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How do I report a drainage problem?

A. A drainage problem involving public streets, storm water inlets, storm sewers, or drainage ditches should be reported to the Public Works Department at 651-429-4750. If the drainage problem is on private property the Public Works Department will give assistance and advice to the property owner on how it could be corrected. The responsibility to do the correction is that of the property owner.

Q. What is the City's policy on snowplowing? How do I report a problem with snow plowing?

A. In order to expedite the prompt and efficient removal of snow from the streets of the City, it is unlawful for any person to stop, stand, or park any vehicle on any public street within the City between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Exceptions are provided for with temporary on-street parking permits which can be obtained at City Hall. Parking Permits are issued at no charge for temporary circumstances such as driveway repairs and social occasions with numerous guests.

In addition, parking is not allowed on any public street when 1 1/2" or more of snow has fallen until the street has been plowed. The official depth for this purpose shall be determined by the Public Works Director, whose determination will be final and not subject to appeal.

Snowplowing complaints should be directed to Mr. Paul Palzer, Public Works Director at 651-429-4750 or email at ppalzer@centervillemn.com

Q. When does the City sweep city streets?

A. All city streets are swept in the spring of the year. Also under certain circumstances such as construction areas with excessive sand, gravel, etc., or broken glass on streets from accidents or vandalism, etc.

Q. How do I report a street maintenance problem?

A. Maintenance problems on City streets are reported to the Public Works Department at 651-429-4750. Problems on county roads should be reported to the Anoka County Highway Department at 763-754-3520.

Q. What kinds of maps are available from the City of Centerville?

A. City Hall has several kinds of maps available for viewing or purchase. Maps giving exact property dimensions and details are available for most properties. Other maps giving less detail of each lot, but giving the entire street layout or utility layout are also available. These maps range in size from standard letter size to maps which are 2' X 3'. For more information, contact City Hall at 651-429-3232. Or visit our web site for Address, Zoning and Trail & Sidewalk Maps.

Q. Who do I call if a street light is out?

A. The resident should report the problem to either City Hall at 651-429-3232 or Public Works at 651-429-4750. Public Works will report the outage or problem to either Xcel Energy, which owns a portion of the street lights within the City, or contact a contracted repair service if the light is owned by the City.

Q. Who do I call if I see a street sign down or missing?

A. Call the Public Works Department at 651-429-4750.

Q. Does the City replace sod, sprinkler systems or landscaping damaged by snowplowing?

A. If your sod has been damaged by the snowplow report this to the Public Works department at 651-429-4750. Public Works Staff will drop off sod to replace the area damaged when the weather warms sufficiently in the spring. Any landscaping or sprinkler systems placed in the City right-of-way is placed there at the homeowner's risk and will not be replaced or repaired by the City.

Q. What are weight restrictions or load limits, why does the City need to post them and how long do they last?

A. Weight restrictions are load limits placed on the roads of the City. Weight restrictions are 7 ton per axle except during the spring when weight restrictions are 3 ton per axle. As the frost in the subgrade of the road melts, moisture is introduced below the road. This additional moisture weakens the subgrade of the roadway, which in turn weakens the road to a point that it can't handle a heavy load without causing serious damage and shortening the life of the road. The City follows State and County recommendations on when weight restrictions are to be posted and removed. Spring weight restrictions are usually posted from early March to the middle of May, or from the time the snow starts melting until after the subgrade has had a chance to dry out. The City of Centerville follows Anoka County. All roads are posted.

Q. What are the City of Centerville's policies for traffic signs?

A. The City of Centerville occasionally receives several traffic sign requests from residents. The majority of these sign requests generally relate to concerns for speeding and/or other careless driving behavior. If a resident(s) have interest in additional signage in an area of the City a petition needs to come before City Council. City Council will then have the area in question studied and a decision will be made as to whether to add signage.

Q. Wouldn't a 'SLOW CHILDREN AT PLAY' sign help to provide safer streets?

A. The "SLOW CHILDREN AT PLAY" type signs were removed entirely from both the Federal and State versions of the Manual a number of years ago. The reason was that the signs were deemed vague and confusing to motorists in their message, and studies performed indicated no measurable change in driver behavior in the vicinity of the signs. The intention of yellow and black warning signs is to call attention to a condition which would be unexpected to an average driver, e.g. sharp curve, railroad crossing, school crossing, stop ahead, trail crossing, etc. While the presence of children in a street certainly can constitute a potentially hazardous condition, it is intuitive to most drivers that roads through predominately residential communities such as Centerville will have some number of children adjacent. There is no known or agreed upon criterion for when a certain density of children in a residential area exceeds what an average driver expects. Click here for changes to the Snowmobile Ordinance now in effect.