



Business Disability-Friendly Fact Sheet: Removal of Snow and Ice

Snow accumulation on sidewalks, curb ramps, parking spots, and parking lots can mean the difference between getting groceries and medication, going to work, going to the bus stop or being trapped inside. Snow removal is vital to the life and independence of people with disabilities. Do your part to ensure your business is in compliance with the law and taking steps to be a local disability-friendly establishment.

What are common problem areas for people with disabilities?

Many people with disabilities run into the same issues with snow removal every year. Some common areas that snow or ice accumulation will block are:

- Sidewalks
- Curb ramps
- Cross walks
- Accessible parking spots
- Access aisles (walking path blocked off next to accessible parking spots)
- Bus stops

When ice or snow blocks any of these paths, people who use mobility aids have trouble getting from one place to another – that is why these paths should be clear.

IT'S THE LAW:

Both the City of Santa Fe Municipal Code and federal law require snow removal:

- Santa Fe Municipal Code 23-1.8 requires the owners, agents or occupants of any property to keep the sidewalks and gutters in front of and adjoining such property clean of snow and ice and after any fall of snow shall cause snow and ice to be immediately removed from the sidewalks and gutters fronting and adjoining their respective lots or parts of lots.
- Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act requires any covered business to maintain accessible features including accessible parking spaces and the accessible route from the parking space to the main entrance, which means access aisles, curb cuts, and sidewalks. A business must also maintain an accessible route from a bus stop to its entrance.

<https://www.gpadacenter.org/learning-center/snow-removal-and-accessibility>