

Winter

2013 - 2014

NOTICE TO ALL RESIDENTS

This notice is being distributed to all village residents, to create awareness of three areas of concern. Safety for our school children and residents is of utmost importance, therefore, compliance to village ordinances and codes will be strictly enforced in these areas.

CLEARING SIDEWALKS:

Per Village Ordinance; "The owner or occupant of any premises adjacent to any sidewalk shall remove all snow and ice from such sidewalk within 24 hours from the time of the accumulation of such ice or snow. Violation of this ordinance is a **civil infraction** which may result in a civil fine, plus cost, expenses and damages." Also, if a resident neglects or refuses to remove the snow or ice the village will clear the sidewalk and bill for any costs and/or damages. The minimum charge for this service is one hour and includes personnel, equipment and material. The minimum charge could be as much as \$75.00 per clearing.

DRIVING OVER SIDEWALKS:

Driving over the sidewalk, except at a driveway, is a violation of the Michigan Uniform Traffic Code. A person who violates this rule is guilty of a **misdemeanor** which may result in a citation being issued by a police officer.

The village has recently received complaints of residents driving over sidewalks, other than at their driveway. Please be aware; sidewalks at driveway areas are thicker and designed to handle vehicle traffic. All other areas of the sidewalk are designed for foot traffic and cannot handle the continual weight of vehicles.

During the winter months, driving over sidewalks packs the snow on sidewalks that have not been cleared, making them slippery and unsafe for pedestrians. During times of warmer weather, driving over sidewalks may track dirt and mud on the sidewalks, making them messy and possibly slippery for pedestrians. Remember, pedestrians expect vehicle traffic to cross the sidewalk at the driveway, but not in other areas. This is a safety concern, especially for younger children who may not be as easily seen by a vehicle driving over the sidewalk.

We appreciate your cooperation regarding this issue and ask that all village residents be respectful to others and at the same time help us save tax dollars by extending the longevity of our sidewalks.

REFUSE CONTAINERS & REFUSE BAGS:

The village has received several complaints regarding refuse containers being left in the right-of-way. Per Village Ordinance; "Residential Containers and Approved Bags with Approved Tags shall be placed in the front yard near the road no earlier than noon on the day prior to pick up and removed no later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled pick up. Violation of this ordinance is a **civil infraction** which may result in a civil fine, plus costs, expenses and damages."

During the winter months refuse containers and refuse bags should be placed in the right-of-way far enough from the street to allow for snow removal operations. For safety reasons, snow plow operators are not allowed to stop their plow truck and move refuse containers or refuse bags.