

Contact: Kristen Waters,
Public Information
Email: kwaters@tetoncountwy.gov
Phone: 307-732-5786 (o) 402-960-6078 (c)



For Immediate Release

Parks and Recreation Winter Service Levels Update

December 5, 2023, Jackson, Wyo. – As we are slowly transitioning into winter, the Parks Department wanted to remind the community what it requires to get the ice rinks and grooming ready for access:

- Although we've had good ice making temperatures last week there was not enough snow to begin packing ice rinks. The snow over the weekend was not quite enough to pack and the warm temperatures that followed set us back even more on timing. It looks like perhaps another weekend storm with cooler temperatures on the horizon. If that is the case, and we have cold temperatures it typically takes about a week to get the surfaces ready for skating. We have been, and will continue, to update X (formerly Twitter) which is linked to our Ice Rinks website to provide updates.
- Similarly, with the grooming activities we need a good base to begin packing. If temperatures cool off and we get just a little more snow, we should be able to start packing Cache and Game with the snowmobile and groomer. Staff will begin by using the snowmobile and pull behind groomer until snow depths can support the Pisten Bully (PB) groomer. Temperatures also play a big part in what type of base we start with, dry powder versus wet heavy snow or something in between. Please be assured that staff will be working to get both the ice rinks and groomed trails accessible as soon as possible. Daily grooming updates will be made through NordicPulse, the link can be found on the P&R website under the Grooming Report. Until that happens, we will update grooming status on X, which is linked to the P&R website as well.
- We are nearly a month behind last year with respect to snow cover and we appreciate the community's patience once the snow finally does come and we work to get sidewalks/pathways cleared, ice built, and trails groomed. Feels a bit like the "old" days when we used to wait until December 15th to start grooming regardless of snowpack. As a reminder to the community, find attached information regarding street and sidewalk clearing for reference. Please use this window of weather to ensure clear sidewalks and streets. We truly appreciate the community's efforts as we transition into winter.

Questions can be directed to Andy Erskine, Parks Superintendent – aerskine@tetoncountwy.gov or Dan Bierman, Parks Operations Manager – dbierman@tetoncountwy.gov.

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WINTER STREET AND SIDEWALK CLEARING

With the winter season almost upon us, the Teton County/Jackson Parks & Recreation (TCJPR) Department and Town of Jackson (TOJ) Public Works Department are preparing for winter-related maintenance activities throughout the area. Primary responsibilities during the winter months are to ensure safe, accessible, connected public access throughout the Town of Jackson. To perform snow removal in a safe and efficient manner, streets and sidewalks need to be clear of moveable objects, tree limbs, shrubs and piles of snow. Sidewalks are designed to have a five-foot minimum clear through zone around immovable objects. Please reference Town of Jackson Ordinances:

- **12.24.080 Pruning - Corner Clearance.** Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the Town shall prune branches so such branches shall not obstruct the light from any streetlamp or obstruct the view from any street intersection ***and so that there shall be a clear space of (12) twelve feet above the surface of the street or right-of-way, or (10) feet above a sidewalk surface.*** Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased, or dangerous trees or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a hazard to public safety.
- **12.20.030 Depositing of snow and ice restricted.** No person, partnership, corporation, joint-stock company, or syndicate shall deposit or cause to be deposited any snow and ice on or against a fire hydrant or on any sidewalk or roadway, except that snow and ice may be windrowed on public roadways incident to the cleaning thereof or windrowed on curbs incident to the cleaning of sidewalks in business districts.
- Town of Jackson Ordinances related to snow removal can be found at <https://www.jacksonwy.gov/281/Codes-Ordinances-Resolutions>

TCJPR and TOJ respectfully request that businesses and property owners remind their plow contractors of **Ordinance 12.20.030**, clear any moveable objects from the sidewalk five foot clear through zone and cut back any trees or shrubs that are encroaching on streets or sidewalks.

The Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments would like to express our gratitude in advance for the community's collaborative efforts to maintain safe and accessible streets and sidewalks for a great winter season.

For questions or clarifications related to snow removal email aerskine@tetoncountywy.gov or Sam Jewison, Streets Manager, at sjewison@jacksonwy.gov.