



TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

RISK REMINDER

Shoveling and Clearing Sidewalks

Maintaining clear sidewalks is essential for safety, accessibility, and community well being. Key reasons for keeping walkways free of snow and ice include:

- Reducing the risk of slips, trips, and falls.
- Ensuring emergency services such as fire, ambulance, and police have safe access.
- Meeting ADA accessibility requirements.
- Providing safe passage for residence, visitors, and pedestrians.



If snow removal is not contracted out, the following safety guidelines can help prevent injuries and ensure effective clearing:

- Warm up and stretch before beginning.
- Push snow whenever possible instead of lifting it.
- For deep snow, remove it in layers and lift with your legs, not your back.
- Dress in layers to stay warm and dry.
- Work at a steady pace and take breaks as needed.
- Clear a path at least 36 inches wide to maintain accessibility for all users.
- Apply salt or a sand/salt mixture to reduce ice buildup and improve traction.
- If you are unable to shovel, arrange for assistance or hire a service.

For more information, contact TOIRMA at (888) 562-7861

CLAIM REPORTING HOTLINE (844) 562-2720 | Available 24/7