

# *Snow Ordinances for the City of Mitchellville, IA*

**69.11 WINTER WEATHER EMERGENCY.** A winter weather emergency is defined as any accumulation requiring street clearance. The emergency shall continue through the duration of the snow or ice storm and the 72-hour period after cessation of such storm. Such emergency conditions shall be determined by the Public Works Director and may be extended or shortened when conditions warrant. No person shall park, abandon, or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley, or City-owned off-street parking area during any snow emergency unless the snow has been removed or plowed from said street, alley, or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall. Such ban shall be of uniform application and the Public Works Director is directed to publicize the requirements widely, using all available news media, in early November each year. Where predictions or occurrences indicate the need, the Public Works Director shall inform the news media to publicize the emergency and the parking rules thereunder. Such emergency may be extended or shortened when conditions warrant.

**70.03 PARKING VIOLATIONS: ALTERNATE.** Uncontested violations of parking restrictions imposed by this Code of Ordinances shall be charged upon a simple notice of a fine payable at the office of the City Clerk. The fine for each violation charged under a simple notice of a fine shall be in the amount of \$25.00 for all violations except snow route parking violations and improper use of a persons with disabilities parking permit. If such fine is not paid within 30 days, it shall be increased by \$5.00. The fine for snow route parking violations is \$50.00 and the fine for improper use of a persons with disabilities parking permit is \$100.00.

**75.03 GENERAL REGULATIONS.** No person shall operate a snowmobile within the City in violation of the provisions of Chapter 321G of the Code of Iowa or in violation of rules established by the Natural Resource Commission of the Department of Natural Resources governing their registration, equipment and manner of operation. (Code of Iowa, Ch. 321G & Ch. 321I)

**75.04 OPERATION OF SNOWMOBILES.** The operators of snowmobiles shall comply with the following restrictions as to where snowmobiles may be operated within the City:

1. Streets. Snowmobiles shall be operated only upon streets that have not been plowed during the snow season and on such other streets as may be designated by resolution of the Council. (Code of Iowa, Sec. 321G.9[4a])
2. Exceptions. Snowmobiles may be operated on prohibited streets only under the following circumstances:

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A. Emergencies. Snowmobiles may be operated on any street in an emergency during the period of time when and at locations where snow upon the roadway renders travel by conventional motor vehicles impractical. (Code of Iowa, Sec. 321G.9[4c])

B. Direct Crossing. Snowmobiles may make a direct crossing of a prohibited street provided all of the following occur:

- (1) The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the street and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing;
- (2) The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the street;
- (3) The driver yields the right-of-way to all on-coming traffic that constitutes an immediate hazard; and
- (4) In crossing a divided street, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such street with another street.

3. Railroad Right-of-Way. Snowmobiles shall not be operated on an operating railroad right-of-way. A snowmobile may be driven directly across a railroad right-of-way only at an established crossing and notwithstanding any other provisions of law may, if necessary, use the improved portion of the established crossing after yielding to all oncoming traffic.

4. Trails. Snowmobiles shall not be operated on all-terrain vehicle trails except where so designated.

5. Parks and Other City Land. Snowmobiles shall not be operated in any park, playground or upon any other City-owned property without the express permission of the City. A snowmobile shall not be operated on any City land without a snow cover of at least one-tenth of one inch.

6. Sidewalk or Parking. Snowmobiles shall not be operated upon the public sidewalk or that portion of the street located between the curb line and the sidewalk or property line commonly referred to as the "parking" except for purposes of crossing the same to a public street upon which operation is authorized by this chapter.

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**135.12 DUMPING OF SNOW.** It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

**136.03 REMOVAL OF SNOW, ICE, AND ACCUMULATIONS.** The abutting property owner shall remove snow, ice, and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice, or accumulations within 72 hours, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax. The abutting property owner may be liable for damages caused by failure to remove snow, ice, and accumulations promptly from the sidewalk.

**136.04 PROPERTY OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE.** The abutting property owner shall maintain in a safe and hazard-free condition any sidewalk outside the lot and property lines and inside the curb lines or, in the absence of a curb, any sidewalk between the property line and that portion of the public street used or improved for vehicular purposes. The abutting property owner may be liable for damages caused by failure to maintain the sidewalk.

*All City Codes can be found on our [Website](#).*