

**ARCHULETA COUNTY  
ADMINISTRATION**  
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PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
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DATE: November 10, 2008  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Archuleta County Road and Bridge Department**  
**2008 – 2009 Snow Removal Information**

In preparation for the upcoming snow season, the Archuleta County Road and Bridge Department is providing information to the public regarding snow removal operations.

Archuleta County Road and Bridge plows approximately 340 miles of roads.

County roads are categorized on a priority basis. Roads with the higher priorities are plowed first, such as school bus routes. Remaining roads are plowed based on priority and route efficiencies. Both Primary and Secondary roads will be plowed.

Hills are sanded for safety as required.

**Normal Circumstances:**

- Typically, plowing operations begin when there is snowfall accumulation in excess of 4 inches.
- On days without snow, crews will cleanup and push back snow routes as needed. Not all roads will receive attention on those days.
- On regular working days plowing operations typically begin at 2:00 a.m.
- Weekends and extended shift plowing will take place under the direction of the Road and Bridge Superintendent.

**Extreme Circumstances:**

- County Roads may not receive same day snow removal. First priority roads will be plowed and kept open on extreme snow days.
- Lower priority roads may not receive attention on those days.

### **General Snow Removal Operations:**

Usually there are two separate snow removal operations:

1. The first is during the storm itself and consists of passes with the plows to keep the roads open. This includes clearing a path sufficient for two vehicles to pass. It also includes clearing cul-de-sacs enough to allow a vehicle to turn around.
2. The second operation begins when the storm abates. It consists of widening the traveled portion of the road, pushing snow back and plowing out wide spots on the roadways. It may be several days between the first plowing and final cleanup.

Each operation may result in a berm of snow across private driveways or encroachments to County roads. The County does not have the resources to keep driveways clear. This is the responsibility of each individual resident or business. Reasonable effort is made to plow in a manner that will minimize the snow that is remaining.

Property owners who create hazards in a public right of way, for example: plowing snow off private drives, piling construction materials or timber, or placing trash carts, may be subject to prosecution under C.R.S. §43-5-301. A property owner may also be liable for any injury attributable to a hazard or the removal of a hazard that has been created in a public right of way. Vehicle owners and property owners who leave vehicles in a public right of way are likewise subject to prosecution and vehicle impoundment.

### **Roadside Parking:**

Parking is PROHIBITED along all County roads and within any County road right-of-way. Roadside parking inhibits thorough plowing and vehicles will be towed without notice.

### **Private Plowing:**

It is unlawful for any person to deposit snow plowed from a private driveway, road or any other source, onto any County Road or right of way per Colorado Revised Statute §43-5-301.

Homeowners and Contractors are advised **not** to push snow across a County road at any time.

### **Trash Carts:**

Trash carts should be placed in the driveway, a minimum of 5 feet behind the front of the snow berm, to minimize the possibility of being knocked over. Trash carts that are knocked over are not the responsibility of the County.

For further information, please contact 264-5660 or visit our website at [www.archuletacounty.org](http://www.archuletacounty.org)

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