

THE SHOVEL SHUFFLE



Keeping sidewalks clear, our neighbors safe
and a walkable community

Move and Groove to the Shovel Shuffle!

The City of Howell requires all sidewalks to be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of a snow event. It's important to shovel on until it's gone in order to keep our community safe and walkable for everyone - from the elderly, to those with disabilities, your first responders and favorite letter/package carriers.

We understand that some may require assistance or have special circumstances, and that's why we want to come together as a community to help one another.

Let's take care of our neighbors - Be a Howell Snow Hero and do the
Shovel Shuffle!

This isn't the same old song and dance - the Shovel Shuffle is being launched as a community-wide movement. We love seeing our residents come together to help one another. Share your Howell Snow Hero stories with us or on social media using the hashtag **#shovelshuffle**.



No experience necessary! Here are some steps for gettin' down with the Shovel Shuffle:

- It's easy to keep time with this beat - use the 7/10 rule! If it snows between 7am and 7pm, plan to clear your sidewalks by 10pm. If it snows between 7pm and 7am, plan to have them cleared by 10am.
- Shovel your entire sidewalk with your neighbors in mind. Is there enough room for someone using a wheelchair or pushing a stroller to pass? Can a mail carrier safely navigate the space?
- Pick a partner! Everyone needs a little help now and then. Check in with your neighbors - the elderly, disabled, those with medical conditions and other special circumstances may have trouble with the Shovel Shuffle. Be a Howell Snow Hero and help them remove snow and ice from their sidewalk and steps.
- Shuffle it up, but not out! Don't push or shovel snow into the street.

Know it's going to snow? Beat the sleet and pre-treat!

If the forecast is calling for a snow event, pretreatment of your sidewalk with anti-icing agents can help prevent the formation of black ice. Avoid a slip and fall incident on your property by applying an anti-icer or de-icer. Apply rock salt, sand, or borrow some non-clumping kitty litter from the cat. These agents help break or prevent a bond from forming between the ice and your sidewalk, making it easier to shovel.

Who is taking a sidewalk stroll in this Winter Wonderland?

Plenty of people – yes, really! Even in this wintry weather, there are still those that may need to use the sidewalk in front of your house or business. Keep those in mind that may have to brave the storm:



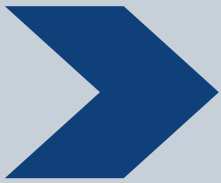
- Emergency response services – our police and firefighters need to be able to safely access a residence or business when responding to an emergency.
- Mail carriers – the snow doesn't stop our persevering postal workers.
- Children walking to school – unfortunately, not every day can be a snow day.
- Individuals that may rely on public transportation, don't have a car or are unable to drive. Walking may be someone's typical form of transportation – clear the space so they have a safe place to do so.
- Joggers – even if you wouldn't take a sprint in the snow, many enjoy it. (Yes, really!)

Resources

Certain circumstances can make shoveling and shuffling difficult for our friends and neighbors. If you or someone you know needs assistance in keeping their sidewalk clear, check out these local resources for help:

- Contact your local church. Some faith communities may offer snow and ice removal assistance.
- Contact Central Michigan 2-1-1 (866-561-2500) to connect with service resources in the community.
- Connect with us and your community on social media! Visit "The City of Howell, Michigan – Government" page on Facebook and join our "Howell Snow Heroes" group. There, community members can connect with one another whether they are seeking snow removal assistance or are interested in assisting others.
- Does your neighborhood use the NextDoor app? The social networking site allows you to connect with your neighbors to exchange information. Reach out for recommendations for snow and ice removal assistance, find a local service or connect with a neighbor who is willing to help.





Shoveling Safety Tips

Stay safe while shimmying to the Shovel Shuffle.

Here's some tips from the Howell Area Fire Department:

- Prevent frostbite - bundle up! Cover your head, ears, and extremities, and prevent entry of snow into your clothing.
- Shovel while snow is fresh - freshly fallen snow is lighter.
- Use a lightweight or smaller shovel to keep the load light.
- When shoveling, PUSH the snow, don't lift it! This saves energy and helps to avoid injury.
- Stay hydrated - take water breaks because the Shovel Shuffle workout is *snow* joke! Dehydration is as big of an issue in the cold winter months as it is in the summer.
- Don't push yourself to the point of exhaustion - be aware of what your body is telling you.
- Keep a cell phone handy in case you need to call for help.
- Beware the danger of carbon monoxide - never start your snowblower in an enclosed area like a garage.

Visit
www.cityofhowell.org

