



news release

December 13, 2013

CONTACT: Eric Johnson, Surface Operations Manager, 541-682-4800

From Public Information Section, 541-682-5523 or 541-954-2938

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ice Snow Parking Ban Lifted In Eugene, Continued Caution Urged

The Eugene Public Works Department has lifted the snow/ice emergency ban on parking along snow routes and has shifted its operational focus to assessing conditions and beginning a major clean-up effort.

Motorists are cautioned that slippery slush and remnants of packed ice remain, creating hazardous driving conditions, especially in higher elevations. Some final spot plowing and sanding is scheduled today in those areas where snow and ice accumulations are still present on priority routes.

Clean-up operations will also start sweeping up the more-than 850 cubic yards of sand and gravel spread on city streets for traction. Sweepers are scheduled to work seven days a week until the cleanup is finished. Please slow down when driving in the vicinity of these crews.

On non-priority streets, residents should keep leaves and any remaining ice and snow away from catch basins to reduce the risk of localized flooding as the snow and ice melt. Residents also can make sure sidewalks are passable adjacent to their property.

Meanwhile, Public Works managers are assessing post-storm conditions to determine when and where to resume leaf collection operations. Details of the revised schedule will be posted at www.eugene-or.gov/leaf as soon as they become available. As part of the transition, equipment will be converted from plows and sanders back to dump trucks and other configurations used for leaf collection and delivery.

The department put leaf pickup and other normal operating services on hold last Friday, when an arctic blast slammed into Eugene, bringing 7 inches of snow to the valley floor and sub-freezing conditions for a solid week. The Public Works Emergency Command Center was opened and an emergency winter weather emergency was declared.

Over the course of the next seven days, crews worked round the clock, applying approximately 850 cubic yards of sand and 6,600 gallons of liquid deicer and logging 2,100 personnel hours in response to the storm. Total response expenditures to date exceed \$105,000.

To report hazardous situations in the public rights of way, call 541-682-4800 or online at www.eugene-or.gov/pwservice. Requests for service will be responded to based on public safety priorities and availability of resources.

#