

**VIROQUA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**702 E. Broadway  
Viroqua, WI. 54665  
608-637-2121  
608-637-2131 FAX  
vpd@mwt.net e-mail**

**Daron Jefson**  
Chief

**Todd Simonson**  
Asst. Chief

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**PRESS RELEASE**

The Viroqua Police Department and the Viroqua Street Department are requesting assistance from all residences in the City that have a sidewalk. Due to the recent rain and then extreme cold, many sidewalks are ice covered and hazardous.

We are asking for assistance in making the sidewalks safe for all people to use. The following ordinance governs the conditions that sidewalks must be kept in.

**12.16.010 Removal of Snow Required**

The owner of property abutting a street shall clean the sidewalk abutting such lot of snow or ice to the full width of such sidewalk within twenty-four hours after the cessation of snowfall, and shall cause the same to be kept free from snow or ice; provided, that when ice has so formed on any sidewalk that it cannot be removed, said owner shall keep the same sprinkled with commercially available ice-melt or non-slip agents including salt or sand.

**12.16.020 Noncompliance – City action.** In cases where any sidewalk remains covered in any part with snow or ice longer than twenty-four hours after the cessation of the most recent snowfall, it shall be the duty of the superintendent of public works to cause such snow or ice to be removed from the full width of such sidewalk and to report the date when, and address (or other description) where such work was done, and whether the sidewalk length exceeded 100 feet, to the City Clerk-Treasurer, who shall insert the following amount in the tax list thereafter to be made out as a special charge against the lot abutting such sidewalk, which shall be collected as other taxes upon real estate are collected:

In addition to the above penalties, citations may also be issued for noncompliance.

The City understands that due to the weather conditions this has been a difficult week. We are sure though, that no one wants anybody to get injured while walking on a sidewalk that could have been easily remedied.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please call 637-2121 and we will direct you to someone that can help.



Daron Jefson  
Chief of Police  
Viroqua Police Department