



# **Wisconsin Rest Area Maintenance (RAM) Program**

## ***County Liability for Snow Plowing at Rest Areas***

Section 19.1 includes pages from the WisDOT Operations Manual describe the counties' responsibilities in clearing snow from the roadways, rest areas and other roadside facilities and in what prioritized order.

As indicated in the State Highway Maintenance Manual, the County Highway Departments are by in large liable for parking lot snow removal. However, service providers are reminded of their obligations to the Snow Removal Guidelines and policy in Section 7.3 of the Program Manual in particular regards to parking lot, curb and gutter areas and priority removal guidelines.

<b>Effective:</b> October 1, 2009	32.00 Winter Operations - Operations 32.15 Plowing Priorities
<b>Supersedes:</b> October 1, 2004	

**By:** Director, Bureau of Highway Operations

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## A. General

The removal of snow, via plowing and/or de-icing agents, on the state highways should be accomplished in a manner that facilitates consistency between winter maintenance sections and adjacent counties. This guideline outlines the plowing priorities.

## B. Plowing Priorities by Highway Type

### Interstate/Freeway:

First Priority	Driving Lanes, Paved Shoulders, Ramps, Interchanges, and Passing Lanes
Second Priority	State Maintained Side Roads and Frontage Roads
Third Priority	Shoulders, Rest Area Ramps
Clean Up (non-overtime hours)	Shoulders, Ramp Gores, Bridge Decks (outside driving lanes), Rest Area Parking, Barriers, Guardrail, Weigh Stations, Crossovers, Park-and-Ride Lots

### Expressway:

First Priority	Driving Lanes, Paved Shoulders, Ramps, Interchanges, and Passing Lanes
Second Priority	Turn Lanes, Intersections, Interchanges, Two-way-left-turn-lanes, State Maintained Side Roads and Frontage Roads
Third Priority	Shoulders, Rest Area Ramps
Clean Up (non-overtime hours)	Shoulders, Ramp Gores, Bridge Decks (outside driving lanes), Rest Area Parking, Barriers, Guardrail, Crossovers, Two-way-left-turn-lanes, Park-and-Ride Lots, Roadside Facilities (when open)

Two Lane Highways:

First Priority	Driving Lanes, Intersections
Second Priority	Intersections, Passing Lanes, Climbing Lanes
Third Priority	Shoulders, Two-way-left-turn-lanes
Clean Up (non-overtime hours)	Shoulders, Islands, Medians, Bridge Decks (outside driving lanes), Guardrail, Walkways, Park-and-Ride Lots, Roadside Facilities (when open)

**C. Exceptions**

The above plowing priorities are intended as a guide for winter operations and changes may be deemed appropriate based on local conditions. The county and district should work cooperatively to identify exception locations.