## Snow Removal Safety Concern

A safety concern was brought to the Clearwater County Highway Department's attention recently; the concern has to do with snow removal from private driveways. Individuals have been removing snow from their driveways by pushing the snow out of the driveway and across the roadway, or leaving windrows and piles of snow on the road. This is causing a serious safety issue by creating a driving hazard. In accordance with MN Statute 160.2715, it is unlawful and considered to be a misdemeanor to push snow across the roadway or deposit snow on the roadway.

Instead of pushing snow across county roads, driveways can be cleaned by pushing the snow into the county ditch on the same side of the road as the driveway. The snow on the left side of the driveway can also be removed to form a "pocket". The majority of the snow from the roadway will go into this "pocket" so as to reduce the amount of snow being redeposited in the driveway from the county snowplow.

If you must enter the roadway to clear snow from the driveway it is very important to remove any and all snow that is carried out onto the roadway. Please don't leave that snow for the snowplow operator. The snowplow may not come back to that area for several days and any snow left on the road will be a hazard. The snow will freeze in the windrows and ridges and is very difficult to remove.

If you have questions or concerns about this issue please contact the Clearwater County Highway Department at (218) 694-6132. Thank you for your help in keeping our roadways safe.

