

POSTAL CUSTOMER



# Cheyenne Area Snow and Ice Control Guide



## Cheyenne Area Snow Removal Guide

Cheyenne Metropolitan Planning Organization  
2101 O'Neil Ave, Rm 205  
Cheyenne, WY 82001



**City of Cheyenne**



**Laramie County**



**Wyoming Department  
of Transportation**

**Working for you to keep  
our streets and highways safe.**



**Provided By:  
Metropolitan Planning Organization**

### CHEYENNE AREA SNOW AND ICE GUIDE

Most Cheyenne area snows are short-lived. Wyoming winter snows can be beautiful and they offer tremendous opportunity for winter recreational activities. They can, however, make driving challenging and dangerous. Cheyenne averages about 52 inches of snow per year, but the typical snowfall only stays on the ground for a few days before temperatures warm and melt it back to bare ground.

**City Snow & Ice Control Capability** - The City normally fields 10 snowplow trucks operating 24 hours per day. With over 400 miles of streets, our first priorities have to be main streets, providing access to emergency services and major community centers. Our second priority is to provide access to schools. As with most communities on the front range, we do not have the resources to plow residential streets on a routine basis. During a winter storm event, our main objective is to keep major city streets passable within the limitations imposed by climatological conditions, the availability of resources, and environmental concerns. After the storm event, we will try to plow residential areas as needed to make them passable. Most plowing operations take place at night.

A "passable roadway" is defined as a roadway surface that is free from drifts, snow ridges, and as much ice and snow pack as is practical and can be traveled safely at reasonable speeds. A passable roadway should not be confused with "dry pavement" or "bare pavement" which is essentially free of all ice, snow, and any moisture from shoulder to shoulder. This "dry/bare pavement" condition may not exist for several days until the weather conditions improve to where this pavement condition is feasible.

The definition of "reasonable speed" is considered a speed that a vehicle can travel without losing traction. During and immediately after a winter storm event, a reasonable speed will most likely be much lower than the posted speed limit. Motorists can expect some inconvenience and will be expected to modify their driving practices to suit road conditions.

The capability will decrease when subsequent winter storm events happen at a frequency where it is not possible to obtain passable roadway conditions and subsequently bare pavement between the events. The severity of a winter storm event, roadway temperatures, and availability of resources along with other factors will dictate how soon passable roadway conditions and subsequently bare pavement can be obtained.

### WHAT TO DO

DO park your vehicles off the street, in garages, driveways, or on low priority roads, whenever possible. This protects your car from being "buried" by snow banks built by plowed snow. Nor can slip-sliding cars damage it. In addition, it leaves plenty of maneuvering room for snowplows.

DO shovel snow from your driveway onto the grass around it. By keeping your snow piles out of the street, those cursed windrows that are plowed across your driveway won't be nearly so high! The melting snow will feed the daffodils instead of storm sewers. DO take it easy! Shoveling snow is hard work and has been linked to heart attacks.

DO leave your car at home whenever possible. Car pools and public transit move people with fewer vehicles on the road. That means fewer vehicles stranded in snow banks and ditches or otherwise blocking plowing operations. Less traffic on roadways means fewer mishaps and accidents, fewer towing bills, less pollution, less stress on you!

*Why doesn't the city plow residential streets?*

The city will plow residential streets enough to make them passable for emergency vehicles after a major snow event. This may not take place for several days since all major streets must be cleared first. We do not routinely plow residential streets that are passable because of limited capability and the problem of where to put the snow. A windrow along the side of the street blocks cars and driveways and takes much longer to melt when the weather warms.

*Why do you always plow snow on my sidewalk after I have cleared it?*

We realize this is very frustrating and apologize for the inconvenience. Our snow plow drivers are instructed to keep from getting snow on the sidewalks as much as possible. However, with some streets, there is simply nowhere to put the snow other than over the curb and onto the attached sidewalk. With detached sidewalks, snow can be placed on the tree lawn (landscaped area between the back-of-curb and sidewalk).

*Why don't the operators go slow so they don't throw the snow up onto the sidewalk?*

We try not to throw snow onto the sidewalk but slowing down is not always the answer. Slower means less road that gets plowed and sometimes the trucks lose traction at slower speeds and can not move the snow.

*Why doesn't the City purchase more equipment so they can plow residential streets?*

Considering the relative few days that we have snow and the fact that it normally stays only a few days, it doesn't make economic sense to spend an additional several hundred thousand dollars for the manpower and equipment to have this capability.



### NOTICE TO REMOVE SNOW AND ICE FROM SIDEWALKS

**City Ordinance requires property owners and/or occupants to remove snow, ice or slush from sidewalks within 24 hours following a snow fall. City ordinance also prohibits the piling of snow, ice or slush from sidewalks, parking areas, and driveways into public streets in a way that creates a safety hazard for vehicles or pedestrians.**

**If you have any questions regarding the  
Snow and Ice Control Program,  
Please call the responsible agency:**

**(Refer to Map)**  
**City of Cheyenne.....637-6263**  
**Laramie County.....633-4302**  
**Wyoming DOT.....777-4375**

**Or Visit**  
**www.cheyennecity.org, www.wyroad.info**

**SNOW & ICE CONTROL PRIORITY PLAN**

Please use caution when driving near a snowplow. These machines are very heavy and they do not respond like an automobile. The large size of the equipment and the poor visibility normally associated with this type of activity make this a very hazardous situation.

**Priority Streets-** These streets generally include all major highways and principal arterials, for example, Yellowstone Road, Central and Warren Avenues, Lincolnway, College Drive, and South Greeley Highway; emergency access routes for ambulance, fire and police; and streets with steep grades or potentially hazardous intersections.

The goal is to free these streets of most drifts, snow ridges, ice and/or snow pack as soon as possible. A snow melt product will be applied on hills and curves, as well as at all hazardous intersections.

**Secondary Streets-** These streets generally include collector and minor arterial streets, such as Carey and Snyder Avenue, 12th, 24th, 19th and 20th Streets, Ridge Road, Avenue C and East/West Allison. The goal on these roads is to keep traffic flowing, realizing that all reasonable safety precautions must be observed. Roads to and from schools are included in this category. A snow melt product will be applied at necessary locations.

**Local or residential streets** which are not classified "priority" or "secondary" are given sufficient service that will allow traffic to move safely at a restricted speed. Plowing will be done on local roadways only after priority and secondary streets are cleared and only as necessary for emergency vehicle access. A snow melt product will only be applied at hazardous locations.

**FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION**

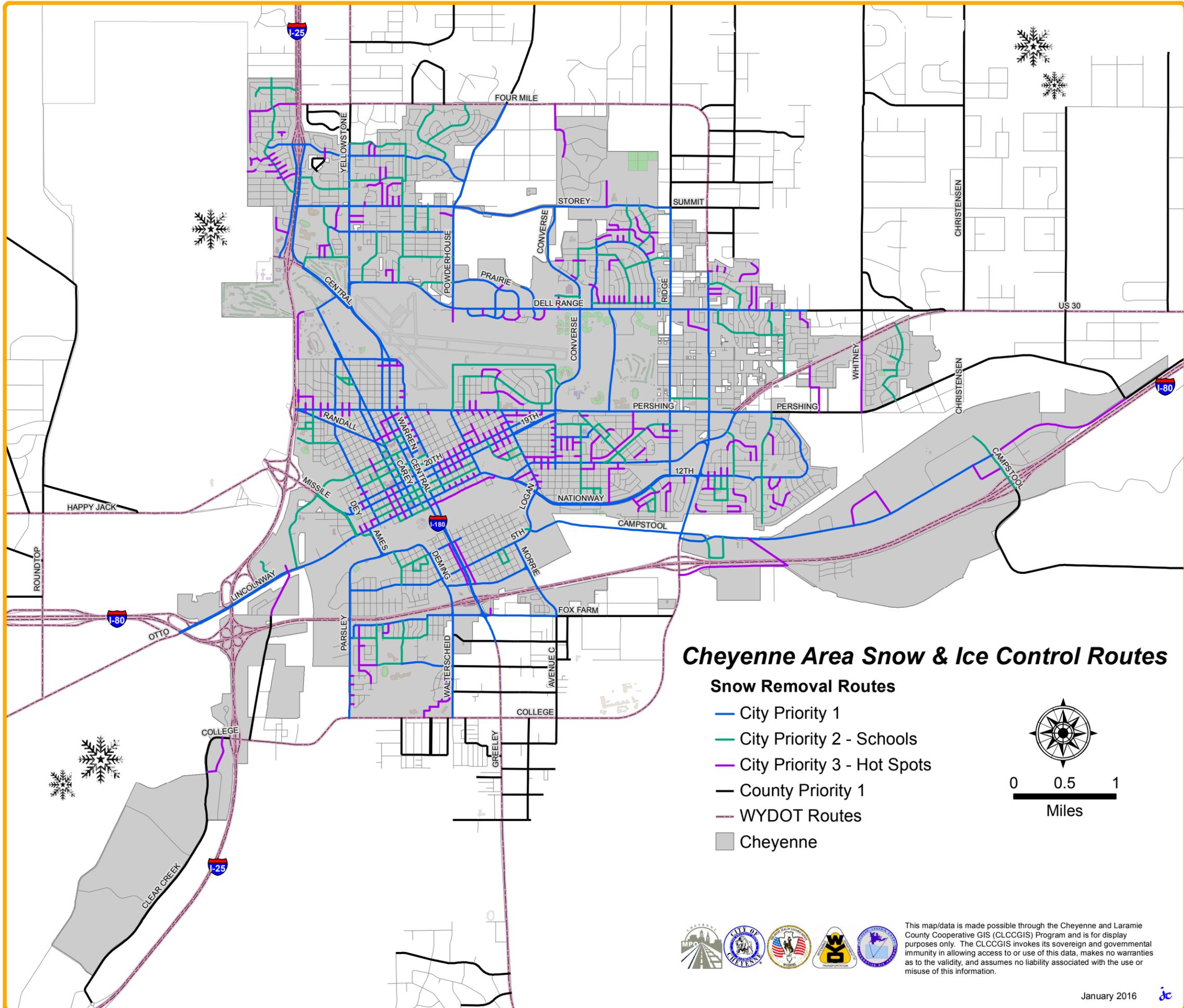
RADIO STATIONS	PHONE NUMBERS
KFBC 1240 AM	Cheyenne Police Assistance.....637-6500
KGAB 650 AM	Laramie County Sheriff .....633-4700
KRAE 1480 AM	Wyoming Highway Patrol.....777-4301
KING 101.9 FM	Cheyenne Transit Program (CTP) .637-6253
KLEN 106.3 FM	
KRRR 104.9 FM	



**Wyoming 511 Travel Information Service Provided by WYDOT**

- Dial 511 from cellular or land-line phones for road and weather conditions (dry, wet, slick, etc.);
- Travel advisories currently in effect;
- Temporary and seasonal closures;
- Current weather conditions; and
- Short-term weather forecasts (up to six hours ahead)
- www.wyroad.info for regional highway conditions.

**Check out WYDOT's Snow Plow Priority Plan at [www.dot.state.wy.us/home/travel/winter/snow\\_plow\\_priority\\_plan](http://www.dot.state.wy.us/home/travel/winter/snow_plow_priority_plan)**



**Cheyenne Area Snow & Ice Control Routes**

- Snow Removal Routes**
- City Priority 1
  - City Priority 2 - Schools
  - City Priority 3 - Hot Spots
  - County Priority 1
  - WYDOT Routes
  - Cheyenne



0 0.5 1 Miles



This map/data is made possible through the Cheyenne and Laramie County Cooperative GIS (CLCCGIS) Program and is for display purposes only. The CLCCGIS invokes its sovereign and governmental immunity in allowing access to or use of this data, makes no warranties as to the validity, and assumes no liability associated with the use or misuse of this information.

**Area 1 boundaries:**

**West:** I-25 with the exception of: 1) Warren Air Force Base: and 2) Western Hills Subdivision- west of I-25 and south of Brittany Drive.

**North:** North of Four Mile Road from I-25 on the west to Whitney Road (or the imaginary line extending Whitney road) on the east.

**East and South:** East of Whitney Road (or a line extending Whitney Road) to where it intersects with Four Mile Road on the north, and Speedway Drive (or a line extending Speedway Drive) on the south, and I-25 on the west, with the exception of: 1) Saddle Ridge subdivision: and 2) Archies Road and all roads

**Area 3 Boundaries:**

The area outside of zone 2 extending to the county and state lines.

**Area 2 Boundaries:**

The Area outside of zone 1 and inside the following:

**West:** A line running north from the state line crossing Happy Jack Road at the landfill and Horse Creek road near county Road 215. The line extends north to a line intersecting with County Road 224, I-25 exit 25, Atlas Interchange

**North:** A line running from the west along County Road 224 to Road 124A. South on County Road 124A to a line consistent with County Road 222, east to County Road 140.

**East:** From County road 222 south along County Road 140 to the Colorado state line.

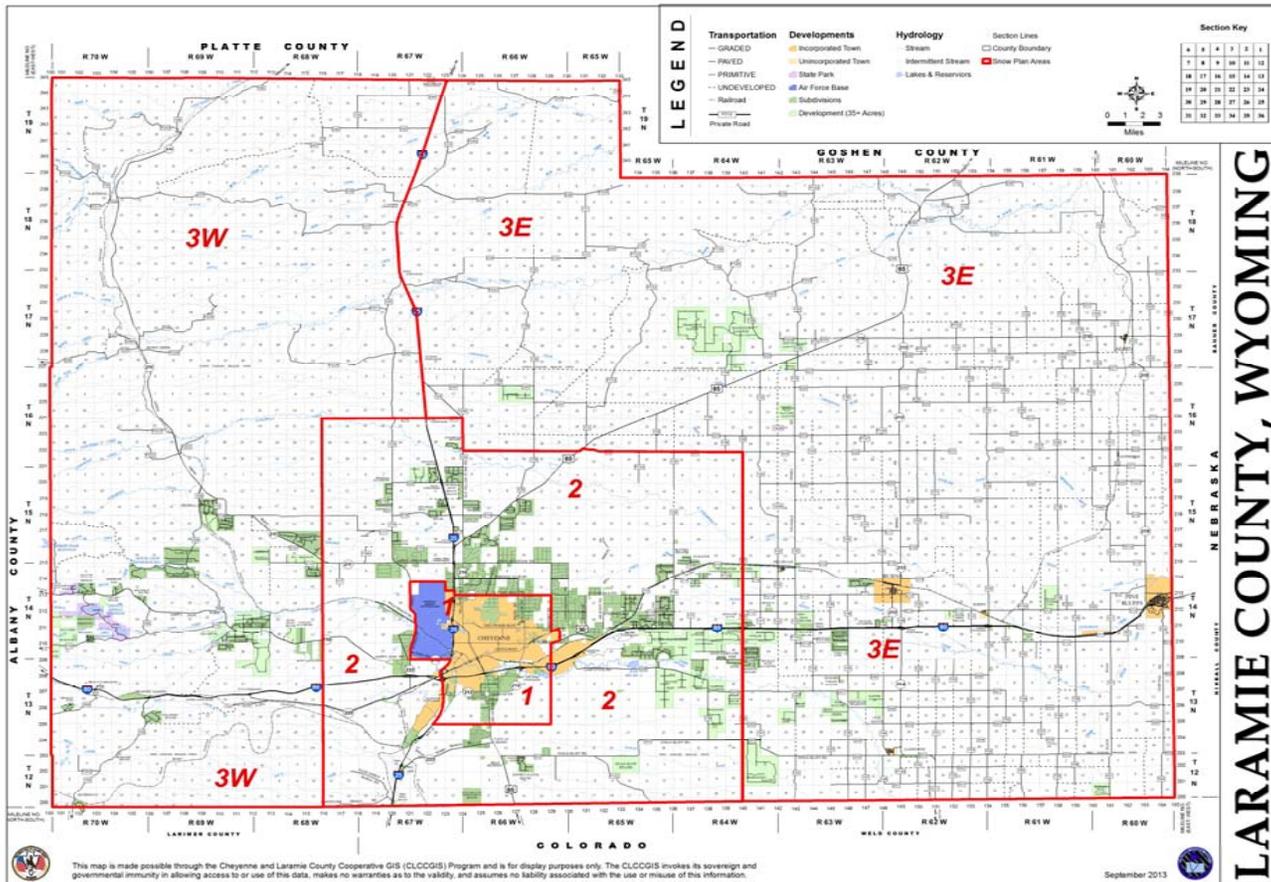


# SNOW

# 3,2,1.....

City of Cheyenne and Laramie County Combined Snow Plan

October 2013



## How it Works

Laramie County is divided in to three (3) areas closing in on the City of Cheyenne. (See map). Closures are determined by road and weather conditions affecting the area. Area 3, furthest away from Cheyenne is divided in to 2 parts, east and west and separated by I-25. Closer in is county area 2. Area 1 is within the city limits of Cheyenne and is consistent with the boundary closures of LCS D # 1.

As severe weather approaches and conditions worsen a level 3 closure will be placed in to effect. People living in area 3 (east or west) will be advised to go home and prepare to shelter from the storm. Any persons working in area three are advised to move to their homes or shelter closer to interior areas.

As conditions deteriorate closures of level 2 and level 1 would follow.



A complete copy of the Snow Plan and map can be found at [www.laramiecounty.com](http://www.laramiecounty.com) or [www.cheyennecity.org](http://www.cheyennecity.org)

When closures occur, employees and supervisors should determine the area you live in (see map). All government agencies do not necessarily operate under the same leave policies. Check with your department supervisor and your specific agency for leave policies implemented for inclement weather closures.

Essential employees: Employees required to work regardless of weather conditions are exempt from inclement weather leave.

### Know the Difference

**Winter Storm Outlook** - Winter storm conditions are possible in the next 2 to 5 days.

**Winter Weather Advisory** - Winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. When caution is used, these situations should not be life threatening.

**Winter Storm Watch** - Winter storm conditions are possible within the next 36 to 48 hours. People in a watch area should review their winter storm plans and stay informed about weather conditions.

**Winter Storm Warning** - Life-threatening, severe winter conditions have begun or will begin within 24 hours. People in a warning area should take precautions immediately.

### Delayed Opening:

A delayed opening may occur if weather conditions are severe but will improve later in the morning or time is needed for snow removal in the downtown area prior to employees' arrival. A local media notification will be sent delaying opening and a time to report to work will be given.

### Day Time Closures:

Day time closures will be called according to area. Likely, area 3 (east or west) will be closed first then moving closer in to area 2 and 1. Supervisors and employees may be notified of closures by several methods, email, social media and phone or in person. Media will be notified of building and program closures. Not all agencies / governments will close or delay closing. If your agency does not close the employer / agency is responsible for media notification. You will be advised to travel home and take shelter from the storm.

### Overnight Closures:

Conditions may deteriorate rapidly over night causing more than one area to be closed. Local media will be advised of closures as soon as possible, the goal is to make this announcement prior to 5:30am. The areas of closure will be a part of the media release. You must determine the area in which you live and whether conditions are safe for you to travel to and from work.