



AIRPORT NEWS

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Caldwell Industrial Airport

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SNOWY WINTER CONTINUES

As I prepare this message on Wednesday afternoon I've just been notified that the road graders normally assigned to airport snow removal have been diverted to public safety related road plowing elsewhere within the city of Caldwell. The snow will be removed from the airport as soon as other priority plowing within the city is completed. It could easily be another day or two before we see the graders on-field.

There are more details about what's going on in the city below in the release from our Director of Public Works, Brent Orton.

Some of you have called to ask why we don't maintain a snow removal capability like we once had on-field at the airport. The short answer is that we had a difficult time keeping operators trained and equipment maintained and, as a result, some years ago a former city employee destroyed a plow blade and damaged airport asphalt in the process. Additionally, the one truck was not able to remove snow very effectively from a runway and taxiway network as large as we have here.

The main problem with this series of snow storms has been the amount of snow per storm and the lack of effective melting between storms. The last time we saw this much snow here was in 1983 and before that it was 1972. In recent years when we've seen a few inches of snow, there has not been any need to plow most of the roads in Caldwell; therefore, it's been easy for the airport to get fairly quick access to the road graders. It's different this time. But it's also tricky to try and predict when we might get this much snow again. It's also not prudent, or cost effective, to buy expensive snow removal equipment only to have it sit around un-needed for (potentially) decades! So we are doing the best we can with the people and equipment we have.

As always, thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to get our community back on its feet and our airport back into full operation.

PUBLIC NOTICE FROM THE CITY OF CALDWELL:

Following is a public notice, recently received from Brent Orton, Caldwell City Public Works Director:

Temperatures are rising and are predicted to hold in the high 30's throughout the day. Tonight we are to enter a multi-day period of below freezing temperatures. Even in subdivisions previously plowed, slush is making some roads impassible. The high temperatures will also bring on ponding, pooling and potential flooding.

To respond to this phase of this emergency Caldwell is taking the following measures:

1. All remaining plowing and road grading equipment will remain in 24 hour operation. The primary focus for plowing will be in Subdivisions, some of which have been plowed and are again impassible and some of which have not been plowed to date. This equipment will be working to get as much done as possible before the freeze tonight. NOTE THAT PLOWING WILL RESULT IN SNOW PILES BLOCKING DRIVEWAYS. Unfortunately, this is unavoidable and MUST BE ADDRESSED BY THE HOMEOWNER OR OCCUPANT. It is critical for citizens to remove the plow-berms blocking their driveways and help those less able-bodied before the freeze tonight since the freeze will make the piles very difficult to remove. Where possible plowing may be to the gutter to help facilitate drainage which could result in similar piles on the sidewalk.

2. To address rain, snow-melt and water accumulation we ask citizens to expose the nearest catch basin. These can be viewed in Google Earth Street View on a mobile device, in Street View on Google Maps or Google Earth *on a computer*, or in the included [pdf document](#). Once in the [pdf document](#), hold the Ctrl button and press F to get a find dialogue. Type the name of your street. Then follow your street to your location using the hand function (right click to select the hand function). The catch basins are represented by the red dots. Clearing catch basins will help alleviate potential flooding. In instances where water accumulation is significant and appears to pose an immediate threat of flooding or property damage, please email or call Tammy Frans at tfrans@cityofaldwell.org or 455 4734. To see that we address the most critical areas first, please report only those locations that appear severe or to pose an immediate risk of flooding or damage.

Summary

1. Plowing continues in full tilt. PLOWING WILL LEAVE A SNOW PILE AT THE STREET END OF DRIVEWAYS THAT OWNERS MUST CLEAR. Please be prepared to help neighbors who may be less able bodied.
2. Report IMMEDIATE flooding concerns to Tammy Frans at 455-4734 or at tfrans@cityofaldwell.org. Wherever possible, use the mapping resources to identify and clear the catch basin near you. Just opening the catch basin will allow drainage. In some instances, salts must be applied to catch basins to thaw and permit flow.