

## Bend Fire and Rescue reminds: keep fire hydrants visible, clear of snow

*by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources*

Bend Fire and Rescue reminds residents and business owners to please keep fire hydrants visible and accessible during the winter months. The recent heavy snowfall has shown that large piles of snow can obstruct hydrants if care isn't taken when clearing snow. This is particularly true where streets and parking lots are plowed.

Large equipment can't always direct the snow away from hydrants. You can help by keeping snow cleared away for at least three feet around fire hydrants when you notice they are obstructed. Also, keep a path clear from the hydrant to the road. By doing this, firefighters can quickly find and use the fire hydrant to fight a fire. If this is not done, precious time may be lost resulting in increased loss of life and property.

We would also like to remind everyone to keep the path to and from buildings, including homes and businesses, clear of excess snow. By doing so, you improve the fire department's access to the building in the event of a fire or medical emergency. Also, keep all emergency exit routes clear and keep emergency exit doors from becoming blocked by snow.

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