



Safety Tips Snow Removal

Be prepared when the snow arrives.

SAFETY GUIDELINES

If you're one of those people who live in a colder climate, hearing the word "snow" can be downright chilling. It wouldn't be so bad if we didn't have to shovel it, but it would seem that we have no choice. To make matters worse, the risk of injury is significantly greater after a good snowfall.

As with many things, common sense and a little elbow grease tend to work best when controlling your winter

wonderland. Snow removal is a cinch if you follow these simple guidelines:

Driveways and Sidewalks

- As soon as snow and freezing rain begin to fall, spread a melting agent on the driveway and regularly traveled walkways to help slow the freezing process.
- Grab a shovel and get outside as soon as you can, and don't wait for the sun to melt the snow naturally - a sudden drop in temperature can solidify snowfall quickly. Clear more than just a single-shovel path on the walkways, which will make walking safer.
- If you are unable to remove a patch of ice, crack it with an ice chisel or heavy-duty scraping tool to expose the surface to the air. This will help accelerate the melting process.

Essential Tools of the Trade

Melting Agents

Spread the granules liberally on the driveway and walkway, but be sure to wear gloves, as melting agents can sometimes cause mild skin irritation.



Conservation Corner

ENERGY STAR® APPLIANCES

When you use less energy, you reduce the use of fossil fuels and diminish air pollution.



To save money and preserve our precious resources, buy an ENERGY STAR qualified appliance if you are in the market to replace a clothes washer or dishwasher.

ENERGY STAR models use less water and less energy. An ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washer uses 18–25 gallons of water per load, compared to a conventional model, which uses about 40 gallons. ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washers and dishwashers use 25–50 percent less energy than conventional models because they use less hot water. So, remember to look for the ENERGY STAR label when you are shopping for new appliances

Snow Shovels

Today's newer models are made stronger yet lighter to allow you to move snow easier than before. Choose one with an ergonomically correct handle to prevent straining your back.

Snow Pushers

Good for moving heavy, wet snow, these tools do what their name implies: They assist you in pushing large volumes of snow from one end of the driveway to the other. As an extra-added bonus, operating the pushers requires you to stand up straight instead of bending over. So during this winter season be sure to take the necessary precautions to keep yourself safe. Dress properly when working outdoors; wear snug fitting clothing in layers and sturdy shoes that provide traction on icy surfaces. Pay close attention to cold temperatures and your level of exertion. Do not work to the point of exhaustion, and remember to take frequent rests indoors.

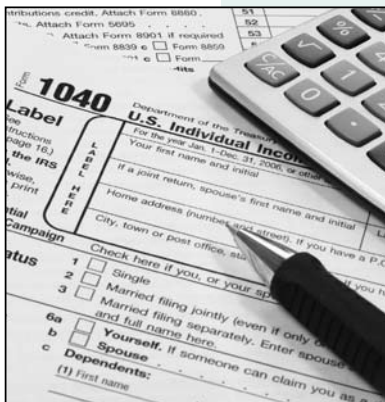
TAX RELIEF AND TAX FILING ASSISTANCE

The Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) provides moderate and low-income working families and individuals with tax relief that can provide cash refunds to families whose incomes are low enough that they do not owe any federal taxes.

You may qualify if:

- One child lived with you, and you earned less than \$33,995 (\$36,995 if married filing jointly) or
- Two or more children lived with you, and you earned less than \$38,646 (\$41,646 if married filing jointly) or
- A child didn't live with you, and you earned less than \$12,880 (\$15,880 if married filing jointly).

For information about how you can get the EITC and free help with your taxes, call the IRS at (800) 829-1040 or visit their website at irs.gov.



Power Content Label

ENERGY RESOURCES	* SIERRA PACIFIC (projected)	** 2007 CA POWER MIX (for comparison)
Eligible Renewable	10%	10%
—Biomass & waste	<1%	<1%
—Geothermal	2%	2%
—Small hydroelectric	6%	6%
—Solar	<1%	<1%
—Wind	<1%	<1%
Coal	29%	29%
Large Hydroelectric	31%	31%
Natural Gas	35%	35%
Nuclear	<1%	<1%
Other	0%	0%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%

*0% of Sierra Pacific Power energy is specifically purchased from individual suppliers.

** Percentages are estimated annually by the California Energy Commission based on the electricity sold to California consumers during the previous year.

For specific information about this electricity product, contact Sierra Pacific Power, (888) 274-1655. For general information about the Power Content Label, contact the California Energy Commission at (800) 555-7794 or on the web at: www.energy.ca.gov/consumer

Sierra Pacific Power makes no claims regarding specific power purchases and, therefore, uses the fuel mix for net system power as determined by the California Energy Commission.

Business Offices

Lake Tahoe, Portola & Loyalton: (800) 782-2506

All Other California Locations: (800) 962-4167



Sierra Pacific™

Our offices will be closed Thursday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day and on Monday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.