



Communities

(<https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/>)

Helping people to help themselves

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Snow Warden Scheme

Overview

What is the Snow Warden Scheme?

In winter, we focus on salting the major routes which carry the most traffic. This sometimes means smaller communities don't receive as much help as they would like. During times of extreme weather, through the Snow Warden Scheme we will provide advice, training and salt to community groups and parish councils who are helping each other on a voluntary basis. The Snow Warden is the key point of contact between Devon County Council (DCC) and the local community and is primarily a co-ordination role.

What does a Snow Warden do?

includes:

- Ordering grit supplies
- Keeping a register of local trained volunteers
- Receiving and responding locally to weather alerts
- Organising and deploying volunteers to clear snow
- Organising and deploying volunteers to spread grit when icy conditions are forecast
- Encourage responsible use of grit/salt and help to minimise the abuse of grit/salt within communities

The Snow Warden must:

- be nominated as suitable by the town or parish council or similar body
- have received suitable training by DCC to carry out minor works
- agree to work within the advice provided by the county council
- agree to work to the parish council's plan that has been agreed with DCC
- be registered with DCC

What type of work can be done by the Snow Warden's volunteer?

- spread grit
- clear snow
- refill [grit bins](https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/safe-travel/winter-travel/grit-bins/) and bags
- [report issues](https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/) with grit bins and bags online

How to get involved

Town and parish councils: If you're interested in joining the scheme and working with Devon County Council to more effectively manage your local area call **0345 155 1004** or email hwaymain@devon.gov.uk (<mailto:hwaymain@devon.gov.uk>)

Individual volunteers and community groups: Contact your parish or town council and offer your assistance. To get the right contact details for your area please use the postcode checker below. Alternatively contact Devon County Council on **0345 155 1004** or email hwaymain@devon.gov.uk (<mailto:hwaymain@devon.gov.uk>)

Enter your postcode

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FAQs

What is the difference between a Snow Warden and a Snow Warden's volunteer?

What training needs to be undertaken?

What are the responsibilities of the town or parish council once signed up to the scheme?

Does DCC provide public liability insurance?

What are the salt supplies and storage arrangements?

Details

Devon County Council will provide:

- A comprehensive winter service as defined in the Winter Service and Emergencies plan.
- Refill county grit bins when we are made aware that they are empty.
- Provide up to five tonnes of salt free of charge (usually in one tonne 'dumpy bags') to be supplied in one delivery to one parish location prior to winter and a small supply of salt bags. Quantity of salt to towns will be negotiated separately and will depend on the services that they wish to deliver, for example clearing High Streets.
- Offer up to a further five tonnes of salt at the same time if required at £100 a tonne.
- Provide a mechanism whereby further salt can be purchased.
- Train Snow Wardens as part of the scheme, and provide advice and guidance as required.

Volunteering details

When: Weekday am, weekday pm, weekends

Transport provided: No

Public transport nearby: Dependent on location of work

Disabled access: No

Training provided: Yes

Group activity: Optional

One-off opportunity: Optional

Out-of-pocket expenses paid: No

Funding and resources

DCC Winter Service Plan (<https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/safe-travel/winter-travel/how-do-we-do-it/>)

Case studies

Snow Warden volunteers on standby.



(<https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/casestudy/snow-warden-volunteers>)

More than 250 towns and parishes in the county have snow wardens in place in case Devon is hit by prolonged severe weather. [Read more >](#)

(<https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/casestudy/snow-warden-volunteers>)

Peter Smerdon, Rattery's Snow Warden



<https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/casestudy/peter-smerdon>

To find out more about being a Snow Warden watch this short film about Peter Smerdon, Rattery's snow warden [Read more >](#)

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/casestudy/peter-smerdon>

[Snow Wardens and self-help](#)



<https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/casestudy/snow-wardens-and-self-help>

Parishes signed up to the Snow Warden Scheme are free to decide how they use their free salt in their area [Read more >](#) <https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/casestudy/snow-wardens-and-self-help>

Case study

[Snow Warden volunteers on standby](#)



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[Getting support and funding \(https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/how-do-i/?open=getting-support-and-funding\)](https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/how-do-i/?open=getting-support-and-funding)

[Getting local people involved \(https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/how-do-i/?open=getting-local-people-involved\)](https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/how-do-i/?open=getting-local-people-involved)

[Projects involving land and buildings \(https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/how-do-i/?open=projects-involving-land-and-buildings\)](https://new.devon.gov.uk/communities/how-do-i/?open=projects-involving-land-and-buildings)

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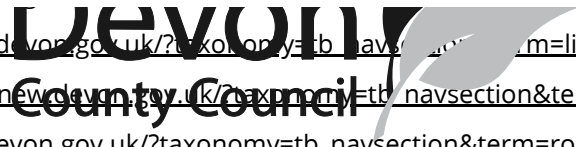
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