

# Obligation of residents to clean public pavements

In the municipality of Bremen, residents must also regularly clear sidewalks of leaves, snow and ice. The Bremen State Road Act (BremLStrG) provides information on the scope of the obligation to clear pavements.

## Competent Department

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## Basic information

Especially in the cold season, when the leaves fall on the sidewalks and the first snow falls, the question of sidewalk cleaning arises.

According to the law, property owners are obligated to clean the sidewalks in front of their property. This obligation can be contractually transferred to tenants or a cleaning company.

## Procedure

The type and scope of cleaning shall be determined by the requirements of public safety and order.

The cleaning obligation of the residents includes

- the removal of garbage, leaves and fruit,
- the removal of excessive vegetation,
- clearing snow and
- dulling of ice and snow on the sidewalks and

on the sidewalks and on the parts of the streets used for pedestrian traffic.

This obligation applies on working days between 07:00 and 20:30 and on Sundays and public holidays between 09:00 and 20:00.

In principle, salts and saline gritting materials may only be spread in small quantities and only in the event of black ice and for thawing out compacted ice and snow residues; salts or saline gritting materials may not be used on streets with trees or which drain onto adjacent green or tree-covered properties.

Road salts can damage trees and plants along roads and streets, and lead to undesirable salt input into soils and waterways. Therefore, the use of road salts, should be reduced to a minimum. Mechanical clearing of snow and ice should therefore always be the first priority. Depending on the hazard situation, gritting or thawing agents can be used in addition after clearing.

For pets, prolonged walking on surfaces treated with road salt can also lead to inflammation of the paws.

## **Legal bases**

- [Bremisches Landesstraßengesetz \(BremLStrG\)](#)

## **What are the costs?**

None

Violations of the rules on the obligation to provide access to the local community may, however, result in the imposition of a fine.