



## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

### ADMINISTRATION

3200 East Highway 34  
c/o 500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070  
Phone: (605) 773-3478  
Fax: (605) 773-3194

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**CONTACT:** Michael Winder, SD DOC (605) 773-3478

### **'Scoop It' Program coming to Rapid City**

Pierre, S.D. - The South Dakota Department of Corrections in conjunction with the Rapid City Office of the United Way and the City of Rapid City is offering snow removal for Rapid City residents who are elderly and/or disabled with limited income.

The '*Scoop It*' program is a community service project of the Department of Corrections. The program utilizes minimum-security inmates to remove snow from the sidewalks and driveways of elderly and disabled homeowners.

The snow removal is coordinated through a community resource organization such as the United Way, which will do a screening of those asking for the assistance. Those requesting help must be senior citizens or disabled who do not have a relative or friend who can shovel the snow or cannot afford to hire someone to do so for them. The community resource organization compiles a list of address and forwards that information on to the prison unit staff. A uniformed correctional officer will accompany the inmate crew, which is made up of minimum-security inmates who are nearing the end of their sentences.

Similar programs are established in Sioux Falls and Yankton. Juveniles assigned to the State Treatment and Rehabilitation (STAR) Academy also provide snow shoveling for the elderly and disabled in Custer.

Any elderly and/or disabled resident of the City of Rapid City who is interested in this service may call the Rapid City Office of the United Way at 343-5872 when measurable snow is received in Rapid City.