



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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'Scoop It' snow removal program coming to Pierre

Pierre, S.D. - The South Dakota Department of Corrections, in conjunction with the Capital Area United Way, is offering free snow removal for Pierre and Fort Pierre 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 addresses and forwards that information on to the prison 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.

Any elderly and/or disabled resident of Pierre or Fort Pierre who is interested in this service may call the Capital Area United Way at 224-9229 when measurable snow is received in Pierre.

The 'Scoop It' program began in 2001 in Sioux Falls and Yankton and in 2005 in Rapid City. Juveniles assigned to the State Treatment and Rehabilitation (STAR) Academy also provide snow shoveling for the elderly and disabled in Custer.

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