



What's
next?

If you've tried everything previously listed and are still having trouble with excess water on your sidewalk, try contacting these resources for additional solutions:

Your Homeowner's Association

Douglas County PW Operations
[See the back of brochure for contact information]

While keeping the sidewalk free from excess water is the homeowner's responsibility, the County can be a resource for information and assistance when needed.

We're here
to help.

For more information, questions
or concerns, contact:

Public Works Operations

 303.660.7480

 pwoperations
@douglas.co.us

Clearer
Sidewalks



Safer
Communities

What's the problem?



What's the solution?



What about the slimy green stuff?



Do you have excess ice build-up in the winter months or algae growth in the summer?

Snow, rain, sprinklers and discharge from sump pumps and roof drainage systems are all contributors to water overflow onto sidewalks.

Don't over-water your yard. In the summer, follow recommended watering guidelines from your local water and sanitation district. Be aware that you may not see excess water over your sidewalk, but you may be contributing to the problem elsewhere on your property or your neighbors property.

This excess water can turn into algae in the summer and ice in the winter, leaving sidewalks slick and creating a pedestrian safety issue.

Whose problem is it?

Several Douglas County homeowners experience this problem. Let's begin by evaluating your individual circumstances.

To prevent excess water and ice buildup:

Make sure your sump pump and downspout discharges are at least five feet from the foundation of your home. If not, they need to be extended, moved or modified.

Keep gutters clear and ensure they are draining to your downspouts, not overflowing elsewhere.

Shovel snow early and often from the sidewalk, driveway and gutter area and onto your lawn.

Remove excessive snow that is closer than five feet to your home's foundation to reduce the amount of water entering your foundation drainage system.

Remove snow and ice buildup in the curb and gutter drainage area in front of your home.

The green stuff is algae, a microorganism that thrives on water, light and phosphorus and/or nitrates. When algae growth is left unchecked, it can cause major problems in waterways and reservoirs.

To prevent excess algae growth:

Soil testing should be done to determine what type of fertilizer should be used, if any.

Use a phosphorus-free fertilizer. Check the fertilizer bag to make sure the middle number of the formula combination is a zero.

Bag your cut grass instead of mulching it. Remove dead leaves and grass from your property.