



LINCOLN

Transportation and Utilities

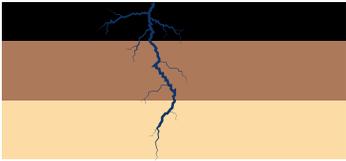


Pothole Fact Sheet

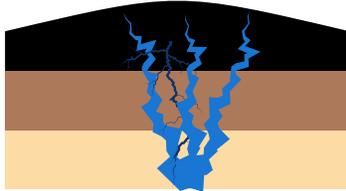
Updated 2024

The City of Lincoln maintains its streets and repairs potholes all year long. Pothole severity is connected to the repetition of freezing and thawing water. Cities like Lincoln are more prone to potholes based on extreme weather changes.

What causes a pothole?



Water enters the cracks in the street.



Water freezes and expands, forcing the cracks to expand in the street.



Water thaws, leaving voids under the pavement.



The weight of vehicles breaks the pavement which then collapses to form a pothole.

The City repairs potholes two different ways:

1

The City has four spray injection patching trucks. A single team member can operate a truck. This is the City's primary tool used year-round to fill potholes with a hot material when conditions are dry and temperatures are above 40 degrees. This tool is more efficient, repairs last longer, offers increased safety for team members and is economical.



2

When temperatures are below 40 degrees or during times of the year where pothole repair requires additional support, a small group of team members fill potholes with a cold material to increase efficiency.



Did you know?

The City fills an average of 50,000 potholes per year on more than 2,600 lane miles of streets.

Pothole Procedures:

An increased number of pothole repairs are typically seen in months like February, March, and April. During these months, crews patrol arterial streets, allowing teams to catch and repair all potholes on each street. This increases efficiency and the number of repairs teams can do.

Priority for Repairs:

1

Arterial Streets

2

Residential Streets

Other Considerations:



The size, location or number of potholes may require the street to become a priority for repairs in order to avoid a lane closure.



UPLNK reports assist the City when identifying streets for pothole repair in winter months and individual pothole repairs during summer months.



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Pothole Fact Sheet

Did you know?

It costs \$24 to fill a single pothole about the size of a dinner plate.



The City of Lincoln spends an average of \$1 million to repair potholes every year. When Lincoln has a mild winter, potholes are less severe. When Lincoln has a hard winter, potholes are more severe.



City Pothole Repairs Per Year

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | *2023 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 83,872 | 41,989 | 54,271 | 21,895 | 33,554 |

*In 2023, LTU received 1,100 pothole service requests from the community. Crews located and repaired 33,554 potholes. LTU crews continuously inspect routes.

Report a pothole to UPLNK.lincoln.ne.gov:



Report a pothole to the City's non-emergency app at UPLNK.lincoln.ne.gov. Take a picture of the pothole if it is safe to do so.



The City reviews pothole service requests daily. Requests help identify streets needing immediate attention.



City crews are assigned street routes to inspect and repair all potholes during peak pothole season.



City crews and four spray injection patching trucks repair the pothole(s).



If additional repair is needed, City crews put a temporary patch on the area and flag it for future paving repair.

Tips for safe driving!



Maintain proper pressure in tires



Follow vehicles at a safe distance



Avoid driving over puddles