



Backcountry Users: Watch Where You Park

Skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobilers Park only in clearly marked and designated parking areas, typically found at the summit of a mountain pass and at some trailheads. Use extreme caution when leaving vehicles or trailers on the side of the road. Vehicle owners park at their own risk.

- Never park in plow turn around areas.
- Vehicles parked on the side of the road create difficult situations for plow operations.
- Parked vehicles may be trapped with snow pushed by a plow. Always keep a shovel in your vehicle.
- Only after roadways are cleared will plow operators then address shoulders and parking areas.
- Some parking areas often lie on state or federal lands, for which CDOT does not have authority or responsibility to keep cleared.



Obey the law When leaving vehicles on the shoulder of the road, backcountry users are at risk of being fined and their vehicles being towed away. Owners who leave vehicles unattended on the side of the road are at risk of obstructing the operations of heavy equipment which is in violation of state law. To read the Colorado law in its entirety, visit the [LawJustia webpage](#).

Look for caution signs Backcountry users should be aware of avalanche conditions. Look for caution signs indicating avalanche areas that are prone to snow slides. These slide areas are often at locations where avalanche control operations may be planned. For your safety, always obey signs when they advise that there is no stopping or standing at the location. Never park vehicles or trailers on the side of the road at these sites.

