

City of Parksville - Snow and Ice Control Information

With winter weather upon us and predictions of severe winter weather ahead of us, the City of Parksville's operations department is geared up to provide snow and ice control. City policy guidelines provide for reasonably safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic while winter weather conditions prevail, operating within budget allocations and within equipment and personnel availabilities.

City policy 8.10 states, during slippery conditions, streets, intersections and sidewalks will be sanded on a 24-hour basis.



Streets

Plowing of City streets will commence when 5cm (2") of snow has fallen, or when road conditions are such that a lesser amount of snow results in dangerous conditions. Road plowing priorities are:

- Arterial roads and highways
- Major collector roads
- Minor collector roads
- Local roads (within 3 days, weather permitting)

The plowing priorities of routes adjacent to facilities will be:

- Emergency service facilities
- Bus routes
- Steep hills
- School areas

Please note that in the event of an emergency in an area that has not yet been cleared, at the request of emergency service coordinators, snow clearing crews will immediately be diverted to escort emergency vehicles, ensuring a clear path for their passage.

Wherever possible, drivers are asked not to park vehicles on the streets during periods of snowfall as this impedes the travel of plows and may result in your vehicle being buried by snow.

During the plowing of streets, a windrow of snow may be formed across driveways. Unfortunately this is unavoidable, especially during heavy snowfalls. As the City does not have the equipment or personnel for a private driveway/access clearing program, it is the owner's responsibility to open access to the adjoining roadway. Clearing of private roads and parking lots is the responsibility of the property owners who are required to ensure that snow removed from their property is not deposited on the adjoining public sidewalks or roadway.

Sidewalks

Snow clearing from sidewalks is the responsibility of the adjacent property owners who are required to ensure that snow removed from the sidewalks is not deposited on the adjoining roadway. During periods of heavy snowfall, in areas of heavy pedestrian traffic, adjacent to City-owned property, City crews will support public sidewalk clearing through use of snow blowers and other snow removal equipment as availability of equipment and personnel allow.

In preparation for a heavy snow fall event

Residents are asked to consider the following items to provide safety and comfort during the time it may take to clear the roads:

- ✓ Have a supply of candles and/or functional flashlights in the event power goes down.
- ✓ Keep cell phones regularly charged should telephone services be interrupted.
- ✓ Ensure an adequate supply of any required medications, infant formula and supplies, pet foods and non-perishable food items in the event roads are temporarily impassable and stores closed.

Most importantly, if it is not absolutely necessary for you to travel, stay home keeping warm, dry and safe. Remember, chances are the place you intend to go may be experiencing staffing issues and may have chosen to postpone appointments, remaining closed themselves. A phone call ahead to confirm or a change plans may be the best choice for all involved.

Contact information

During regular office hours (8 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday), should you have questions or concerns regarding our snow and ice control program, please contact:

Department of Engineering and Operations at 250 248-5412

Should you experience an emergency that requires City assistance outside of regular hours, please call our 24-hour answering service at 250 248-6144 and the operator will assist you by relaying your situation to our on-call staff.

For more information on dealing with the challenges of winter, please refer to our City website at www.parksville.ca.