



Department of Public Works & Utilities

Snow and Ice Response Highlights, January 2014



- 292 lane miles of streets to clear
- 6 primary “workhorse” vehicles (single axle dump trucks) capable of applying sand and salt
- Priority is given to clearance of main thoroughfare streets such as: Schofield Avenue, Ross Avenue, Alderson Street, Fuller Street, Weston Avenue, Jelinek Ave, etc. that serve businesses, schools, and the hospital area.
 - These streets receive attention for every winter precipitation response event.
 - Salt is routinely applied to these main thoroughfare streets to attempt to keep pavement bare.
- Other neighborhood streets are given lower priority and are cleared after 1,” or more, of snow has fallen.
 - Salt is only applied to these other streets at hills, curves, and intersections and it is not a priority to keep pavement bare.
- Cul-de-sacs and neighborhood streets are given lowest priority and will typically not be cleared during an unscheduled event unless the snowfall exceeds 3 inches.
- Some sidewalks are cleared by the Village, but only during regularly scheduled work hours and when sufficient resources have been devoted to clear streets.
- ALL SNOW EVENTS ARE DIFFERENT
 - **Air temperature, pavement temperature, snow moisture content, humidity, wind, and other factors determine what is necessary to be done to keep streets open and safe for travel.**
 - **SALT** is only effective for melting snow when pavement temperatures are 20° F or above. Abrasive (sand) is used at cold temperatures to improve traction.
 - The Department of Public Works also relies upon the Everest Metropolitan Police Department to inform the Department when pavement conditions become a concern during non-working hours.
 - The normal protocol is for the Department of Public Works to determine whether there is a necessity to dispatch a response team and how intense the response needs to be.
 - Light precipitation events (up to 3”) may only require a few vehicles to keep main thoroughfare streets cleared of snow and salted.
 - Heavier events (over 3”) will normally require a full contingent of 12 vehicles to clear all streets.
 - Weather forecasts are monitored to aid in planning for an event response.
- A full plow route is composed of thoroughfare streets and neighborhood streets and will take between 6 and 8 hours to clear.

Important Points to Remember

- Snow and ice make pavement slippery and create conditions that are not ideal for driving – please remember to SLOW DOWN and give yourself extra time to reach your destination safely.
- Snowplows will frequently stop and back up to clear intersections – STAY BACK AT LEAST 200 FT.
- Snowplow drivers have many controls to operate while trying to stay clear of any objects on the roadside, particularly mailboxes. The Village has a mailbox replacement policy, but the ability to place a mailbox is a privilege granted to an adjoining property owner and mailboxes are at risk of being impacted by snow plowing and removal operations.
- Truck mounted plows do not have the ability to apply downward pressure to scrape bonded snow and ice buildup from streets, the plow simply glides over the top. The only vehicle capable of scraping bonded snow and ice is the grader and there is only one in the village’s fleet.
- Snow plows do not have the capability of being controlled to selectively deposit snow. Snow is channeled by the plow from near the center of the street to the curb or shoulder and will create a windrow there. We apologize that this includes your driveway.