

SNOW REMOVAL ON SIDEWALKS AND PATHWAYS

Sidewalks, driveways, and entrances are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner, occupant, community association, or business for snow removal. Snow and ice must be cleared from all paved sidewalks abutting your property within 24-72 hours of the end of the snowfall, depending on the storm response level (Level 1 = 24 hours; Level 2 = 48 hours; Level 3 = 72 hours).

City crews coordinate road clearing and sidewalk work depending on the severity of the storm. Accessible curb ramps, sidewalks and pathways that abut publicly-owned property are cleared by crews from City departments or Alexandria City Public Schools personnel.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The City will maintain its **snow emergency hotline** (703.746.4488) before, during and after potential snow emergency events. Once a snow emergency is declared by the City, pay special attention to news broadcasts, the City's website, eNews alerts, Facebook, and Twitter for announcements that a snow emergency plan is in effect. Be prepared for winter weather by maintaining an adequate supply of shovels, salt or sand for your sidewalks and driveways. Clear ice, snow and leaves from around fire hydrants and storm drains, and avoid shoveling snow into the street. Following these tips will help the City return to normal operations as quickly as possible.

Rev. 11/2010

ALEXANDRIA'S PLAN FOR SNOW & ICE CONTROL



Snow Hotline: 703.746.4488
alexandriava.gov/Snow

In Alexandria, snow and ice storms produce an average accumulation of 15 inches each year, generally spread over several events in a typical winter. The City clears snow from 521 lane miles of roadways, 20 miles of publicly owned sidewalks, walkways, and pathways, and 44 acres of municipal parking lots and publicly owned squares.

Clearing city streets and sidewalks is a difficult process that takes time, hard work, and good communication between residents, business owners, and the City government. The City of Alexandria has implemented a new system for responding to winter storms. Definitions for removing snow from streets have been developed to inform the public about what to expect, based on the severity of the storm.

SNOW REMOVAL DEFINITIONS

- **Roads Closed:** Streets are accessible to emergency vehicles only. All other vehicles should stay off the roads, as conditions are unsafe for driving.
- **Snow covered:** Street is covered with snow.
- **Passable:** Street may have been plowed (possibly one lane only) but may have only been treated. Snowy or icy spots remain and the street will require additional plowing. Drivers should use caution and limit driving to essential trips.
- **Plowed:** Snow has been pushed to the sides of the street, leaving one or two

inches of snow, or has been cleared down to blacktop, with running water visible. Streets are also treated with salt. Drivers should continue to use caution and expect icy spots and/or snow.

- **Snow Emergency Route:** Any road where stopping and parking are not permitted during snow emergencies in order to maintain the flow of traffic for public safety purposes and to permit snow plows unimpeded access to the roadway.

WINTER WEATHER EMERGENCY SYSTEM

The city's winter weather emergency classifications are based on type and accumulation of precipitation with severity ranging from Level 1 (least severe) to Level 3 (most severe). The classifications are based on similar systems used widely in other jurisdictions. In Alexandria, the City Manager may declare a snow emergency and implement parking restrictions at any level.

SNOW REMOVAL PRIORITIES

City crews treat and plow primary roads (which include snow emergency routes), followed by secondary routes (including hills). After these priorities are addressed, crews will begin plowing residential streets. To check on the plowing priority and status of your street and submit a concern, use the City's **SnowReport** tracking system online or call the **Snow Hotline** at 703.746.4488.