

Frequently asked questions

Why does the City plow snow into driveways?

To plow more expeditiously and clear more snow from the streets, drivers are instructed not to raise and lower snow plow blades at driveways.

When will my street be plowed?

All residential streets will be plowed. The time frame depends on road and weather conditions and the time it takes to plow primary routes. Call 703-838-4488.

Who do I call in an emergency?

Call 911 for life threatening emergencies and fire and rescue services. They have vehicles equipped to respond in the snow, and will contact T&ES if they need assistance to maneuver on a City street.

When does the snow plowing begin?

Snow plow operations begin when there are three or more inches of snow on the pavement.

How much equipment is used to plow snow?

The 24 pieces of City-owned equipment and 14 pieces of City-sponsored contractor equipment plow a total of 521 lane miles of city streets.

What snowfighting chemicals are used on city streets?

The materials are applied to minimize environmental impact. Rock salt for wet snow; liquid calcium and pre-wetted rock salt for compacted snow, and liquid calcium, wetted salt and sand to melt ice.

Will the City arrange to clear sidewalks for senior citizens and residents with disabilities?

For this service, call Citizen Assistance at 703-746-4800.

Will my trash and recyclables be collected when it snows?

Refuse and recycling collection operations are in effect during snow and ice emergencies.

City of Alexandria, Virginia
**Department of
Transportation &
Environmental Services
(T&ES)**



City Manager

James K. Hartmann

T&ES Director

Richard J. Baier, P.E.

**T&ES Operations Division
703-838-4488**

Website

www.alexandriava.gov/snow

**Comcast Cable Television
Channel 70**

Announcements about changes in City programs and services due to inclement weather are broadcast on the City's Cable Channel 70, the City's website:

www.alexandriava.gov

and on regional commercial radio and TV stations.

The City of Alexandria
**Snow and Ice
Control Program**



**The
Winter
Challenge!**

Department of Transportation &
Environmental Services (T&ES)

Whether you are ready or not... T&ES is prepared!

The Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) is responsible for snow and ice removal from public streets within the city. This is a difficult process that takes time and a lot of hard work. Snow and ice storms produce an average accumulation of 20 inches annually in Alexandria. It is not practical or feasible to clear all roadways, and the City's snow operation team works around the clock to ensure that all primary roadways such as major traffic carriers, hospital and emergency routes and school bus routes are kept clear and passable. A map of these routes may be viewed on the City's website: www.alexandriava.gov/snow

Once a snow emergency is declared by the City, residents should pay special attention to news broadcasts when announcements are made that a snow emergency plan is in effect.

TIP:

Vehicles parked on snow emergency routes may be towed and impounded. Additionally, during a snow emergency, the City Code, Section 5-8-134, states that it is unlawful for any person on any street designated as a snow emergency route to obstruct or impede traffic through failure to have a vehicle equipped with snow tires or chains.

City snow plowing: What you can expect

After a storm is over, T&ES snow emergency crews make every effort to clear city streets in a reasonable amount of time (depending on temperature and road conditions). The goal is:

- Less than 4 inches12 hours
- Between 4 and 8 inches ...24 hours
- Over 8 inches72 hours

City Plowing Priorities

- 1st ... Primary roadways
- 2nd ... Secondary roads and school bus routes
- 3rd ... Hilly streets
- 4th ... Residential streets

Note: City alleys and parking lots are not part of our plowing operations.

Why isn't this road plowed?

Not all roads in the City of Alexandria are maintained by T&ES.

- National Park Service: 703-419-6410
- Road & Trail Maintenance: 703-419-6417
- G. W. Parkway south of Hunting Towers and north of Second Street: 703-419-6408

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) 703-383-8368

- Duke and Walker Streets to the west city line
- King Street at I-395
- U.S. 1 (Jefferson Davis Highway from Franklin Street south)
- Interstates

How you can help T&ES during snow and ice emergencies

Clear snow and ice from your property. City Code, Section 5-2-21, states that business owners and homeowners are responsible for clearing sidewalks abutting their property within 24 hours after a storm has ended. Failure to clear sidewalks within 24 hours after snowfall will result in fining the property owner \$50. In addition, the City will have the work done and charge the cost to the property owner.

- * Clear ice, snow, and leaves from around fire hydrants/storm drains near your property.
- * Do not shovel snow from your property back onto the sidewalk and/or street.
- * Park your car off the street whenever possible.
- * Immediately report potholes to T&ES, Maintenance at 703-838-4488. www.alexandriava.gov
- * Check on neighbors needing special assistance.

Why use alternative transportation during a winter storm?

- * To reduce the chance of getting into an accident
- * To reduce the number of vehicles on roadways and give snow plows more room to operate
- * To save wear and tear on your car
- * To reduce the stress of driving

INFORMATION

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