



Snow and Ice Removal Frequently Asked Questions

The City asks that all citizens be prepared for extended delays in clearing roads during inclement weather, especially if you live on a steep neighborhood street. For your safety, the best policy is to stay home if you're not equipped to travel on snow or ice, regardless of whether the roads have been cleared or treated by the City. If you must travel during a snow or ice event, be prepared for winter driving by having a vehicle with 4-wheel drive, studs or chains, and carry a car safety kit. Most importantly, know your personal driving limitations!

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find up-to-date information on snow and ice response, and garbage collection for my neighborhood?

Check the City's website frequently at www.cityofcamas.us under the "Home" page "Featured News" to view current updates for both snow and ice response, and garbage collection. City crews will typically follow the Priority Routes identified on the Snow Plow and Anti-Icing Priority Routes [map](#). Additionally, you can follow The City of Camas on our Facebook page for inclement weather updates.

Why doesn't the City plow our neighborhood (side streets) during the storm? Wouldn't it take just a minute to swing in?

The City's limited number of plows and employees are fully utilized to maintain Priority Routes in a passable condition for emergency vehicles and overall mobility City-wide. Additionally, if our crews are routed to side streets in severe weather, we could quickly lose control of priority routes which impairs emergency response and general mobility.

All other streets will be serviced as crews become available during regularly scheduled shifts. Since each storm is unique, when City staff can get to neighborhood streets, they will be prioritized based on the ability of the plows to be effective, the safety of the plow driver, and the routes for school buses and sanitation collection, and any other factors as determined by the driver.

How will emergency vehicles drive to my home? What if I need to get out to pick up a prescription or food?

Street crews are in constant contact with both the Police Department and the Fire Department during inclement weather events. Plows will be dispatched to assist emergency vehicle access into neighborhoods for emergency response. If you are having an emergency, please call 911. If you need to get out of the home for non-emergencies, the City suggests you network with friends and family for support.

With large storm events, there is also the possibility that you may be without electricity and/or water and it is recommended that you have an emergency supply of food and water on hand.

My sidewalk is covered with snow and/or ice. Will the City clear it off?

No, City Ordinance (CMC 12.04.020) states it is the homeowner's responsibility to clear the sidewalk adjacent to their property.

What products does the City use on the roadways during a snow and ice event, and are they corrosive?

Prior to and during a storm, the City will use liquid and solid de-icer to inhibit ice from forming and to help it melt faster. As a last resort, the City may also use sand or gravel. All products are used sparingly due to the cost and corrosive nature of the products. The City does recommend washing your car after major storms.

When you plowed our neighborhood, the City left a bank of snow in front of our driveway. When will they remove it?

The City cannot clear individual driveways. Operators make every attempt to minimize the impacts from plowing, but must continue on to plow other Priority Routes.

Does the City close roads during snow and ice events?

Yes! Please see the Snow Plow and Anti-Icing Priority Routes [map](#). For reference, the following roads may be closed by the City during inclement weather:

- NW 23rd Avenue, from NW Douglas Loop to NW Hood Street
- NW Forest Home Road from NW 10th Avenue to NW Astor Street
- Division Street from NE 6th Avenue to NE 11th Avenue
- NE Dallas Street from NE 6th Avenue to NE 14th Avenue
- NW Dahlia Drive from NW 30th Circle to NW 34th Circle
- NW Lacamas Lane from NW Jasmine Street to NW Lake Road
- NW 44th Avenue from NW Jasmine to NW Lacamas Lane