

# Guide to Snow Removal in the City Centre by Public Works Dept

Any concerns related to snow and ice can be directed to the Public Works Dispatcher at 519-271-0250 ext 259

## Roads

- All winter activities fall under the Minimum Maintenance Standard  
<http://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/020239>
  - Core streets fall into the category of Class 2, 3 and 4 roads that require inspection every 4 to 16 hours for snow accumulation and icy conditions
  - The City exceeds these guidelines in most situations and treats the core streets as class 2 streets in general, both with inspections and response for treating (sanding and salting) or plowing
- Salting and Sanding of roads is conducted whenever there is an accumulation of snow or ice on City Streets including the Core. Outside of the regular day shift, inspections are conducted of roads every 4 hours throughout the winter period 24/7.
- Plowing is typically conducted on core streets when snow accumulation reaches or exceeds 5 cm. If conditions allow the City's sand and salt mix to melt these accumulations, plows will not be used.

## Snow Removal

- The removal of snow from on-street parking spaces is conducted with the road plowing operation at the same level of service. Cars in these areas are either towed or plowed around and re-plowed usually on the following night.
- Snow removal typically waits for a winter event to finish. If there is snow through Tuesday, for example, resources are used to plow and treat all roadways and lanes in the Core on Tuesday night. The snow removal operation involving blowing and trucking would follow on Wednesday night.
- If there is not additional accumulation the Core will have the majority of snow banks removed in three days.
- Snow Removal in the Core is initiated when the average height of banks reach .6 metres. There is a sequence that this is conducted for safety. The following list breaks down the sequence on how the City removes snow from the streets. *It should be noted that this list may not be completed seamlessly because the blower operation may need to continue beyond the core streets on Ontario, Erie and Huron before completing Core streets.*
  1. Wellington and Marketplace
  2. Ontario, Erie and Downie Street
  3. Other core streets with on-street parking
  4. Core streets without on-street parking
- Snow removal in metered and not-metered areas is conducted by a plow or motor grader pulling snow out, a large blower that loads trucks and between 3 and 6 tri-axle dump trucks moving along these areas.

## Parking Lots

- City forces inspect the lots and plow them or treat them under the same standards as the roads in the core. Parked cars will create more accumulation and ice in some areas as the plows and sanders are unable to reach these areas.
- Removal of stored snow in the lots is conducted when multiple parking stalls are being used for snow storage; stockpiled snow in stalls is removed more frequently prior to Christmas as parking is at a premium through this period.