



Snow Removal Info

When is the “Snow Season?”

The City has defined the snow season as running from Nov. 15 to March 15. Spokane sees most of its snowfall during these four months of the year, with snow often concentrated in December and January.

What is a “Snow Emergency?”

During Snow Season, the City monitors weather conditions 24 hours a day. When snowfall reaches certain thresholds, the City will declare a snow emergency, which triggers a variety of responsibilities for the City and its citizens. We have two stages of snow emergency, depending on conditions.

What’s included in a Stage 1 Snow Emergency?

The City will declare a Stage 1 Snow Emergency when 2 inches of snow are on the ground and 4 more are anticipated during the current snow event. This declaration will trigger a number of actions.

What’s included in a Stage 2 Snow Emergency?

The City will declare a Stage 2 Snow Emergency when 6 inches of snow are on the ground and more is anticipated during the current snow event. Again, this declaration will trigger a number of actions.

Citizens/Property Owners will be asked to:

Stage 1 Snow Emergency

- Move parked cars off all arterials and fixed STA bus routes within 6 hours.
- Clear sidewalks of snow within 24 hours.

Stage 2 Snow Emergency

- Keep parked cars off of all arterials and fixed STA bus routes.
- Move vehicles out of downtown street parking spaces between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.
- Move parked cars in residential areas to one side of the street within 12 hours. (Odd side of the street during odd snow seasons—2009-10; even side of the street during even seasons—2010-11).
- Clear sidewalks of snow within 24 hours.
- Clear vehicles that are parked along the street of snow.
- Clear snow from around fire hydrants, storm drains, and mail boxes.

The City will:

Stage 1 Snow Emergency

- Notify citizens of the snow emergency.
- Plow arterials and fixed STA bus routes on a 20-hour schedule until complete.
- Supplement Street crews with crews from other City departments, as needed.
- Plow Neighborhood Business Districts to the curb, as part of the arterial routes.
- Plow around hospitals and in medical district, as needed.
- Clear snow in Central Business District using de-icer or by plowing to the center of the street.
- Monitor residential hills for possible action.
- Clear sidewalks around priority City-owned property within 24 hours.

Stage 2 Snow Emergency

- Notify citizens of changing snow emergency.
- Immediately embark on a full-City plow. A full City plow will take about 4 days of 24-hour operation, depending on weather conditions.
- Bring in private contractors to supplement City crews.
- Clear sidewalks around priority City-owned property within 24 hours.
- Be ready to implement “Snow Corridor Plan,” if weather conditions severely restrict the City’s ability to keep up with snowfall.

What’s the Snow Corridor Plan?

The Snow Corridor Plan is implemented when City crews cannot effectively keep arterials clear because of weather conditions. Crews will concentrate on identified routes that citizens can rely on until conditions improve. New signage is being added to the snow corridor routes. The routes include:

North-south

- Maple/Ash. I-90 to the north City limits.
- Cedar/High Drive/Hatch. I-90 to 57th Avenue.
- Division Street. I-90 to the north City limits
- Bernard/Grand. Third Avenue to High Drive.
- Freya/Greene/Market. I-90 to the north City limits.
- Freya/Thor/Ray/Regal. I-90 to 57th Avenue.

East-west

- Francis Avenue. West City limits on Nine Mile Road to Havana Street.
- Wellesley Avenue. Assembly Street to Freya Street.
- Sunset Highway/Second and Third Avenues. West City limits to east City limits.
- 29th Avenue. High Drive to Havana Street.
- 37th Avenue. Bernard Street to the east City limits.

**Snow Line
(509) 456-2666**

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