

HERE'S TO WINTER

A guide to
Toronto's winter
maintenance plan

WINTER 2024-2025



WHAT WE DO

1. **Watch weather:** *We monitor the weather forecast and plan ahead.*
2. **Anti-ice:** *Crews spray salt brine on expressways, hills, bridges and other high-priority locations before snow falls to prevent ice from forming.*
3. **Salt roads:** *Salt trucks are called out when the snow starts to accumulate.*
4. **Clear sidewalks:** *Crews start clearing all public sidewalks when the snow is 2 cm deep. Before that, property owners must clear their sidewalks of snow and ice.*
5. **Clear bikeways:** *Crews start clearing all cycling infrastructure when there is at least 2 cm of snow accumulation.*
6. **Plow roads:** *Clearing begins on roadways when snow accumulates as follows:*
 - 2.5 cm – expressways
 - 5 cm – major roads and transit routes
 - 8 cm – residential streets
7. **Clear driveway windrows:** *After plowing is complete, crews clear snow piles left behind by plows on eligible streets.*
8. **Patrol streets:** *We patrol the roads 24/7 and activate clearing operations where required.*
9. **Respond to service requests:** *Please wait at least 24-48 hours after the snow stops falling to connect with 311 – it takes time to clear the snow.*

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- *Keep a safe distance from City snow clearing equipment.*
- *Regularly clear around fire hydrants near your property.*
- *Clear your sidewalk if less than 2 cm of snow falls.*
- *Follow us on social media to get the latest updates.*
- *Use the PlowTO map to track plows and salters in your neighbourhood: toronto.ca/PlowTO*
- *Connect with 311 to make a service request. Please wait at least 24-48 hours after snow stops falling: toronto.ca/311*

WHEN WE CLEAR SNOW

Our comprehensive winter maintenance plan prioritizes the safety and mobility of residents above all else, so that getting outside is never out of season.

Toronto's 14,700 km of road lanes, 7,900 km of sidewalks and 486 km of cycling infrastructure lanes are maintained by a large fleet of salting and plowing equipment. In all cases, City crews will ensure the right of way is cleared, accessible and safe to be travelled at reasonable speeds.

ALL ROADS ARE SALTED FIRST. PLOWS GO OUT LATER, IF REQUIRED.

What we clear, in priority sequence	When does salting start?	Plowing begins after:	Time required for City crews to complete one round of salting vs plowing*	How much snow may be left behind?
Expressways (Don Valley Parkway & Gardiner Expressway)	When snow first accumulates, in priority sequence	After 2.5 cm of snow accumulates	2 hours each	Snow cleared from all lanes
Major roads, transit routes and streets with hills	When snow first accumulates, in priority sequence	After 5 cm of snow accumulates	4 hours salting 6-8 hours plowing	Centre of roadway is cleared of snow
Residential streets	When snow first accumulates, in priority sequence	After 8 cm of snow accumulates	8 hours salting 14 hours plowing	Safe and passable
All cycling infrastructure	After 2 cm of snow accumulates	After 2 cm of snow accumulates	8 hours each	Safe and passable
Sidewalks	After 2 cm of snow accumulates	After 2 cm of snow accumulates	12 hours each	Safe and passable

**May vary based on severity of weather conditions.*

Required outcomes will vary based on infrastructure type from bare pavement to safe and passable. City service level standards are subject to change in the case of a Major Snow Event declaration. For more information, visit toronto.ca/Snow.

KNOW YOUR SNOW LEVELS





LEARN MORE: toronto.ca/Snow



*Pour consulter ces informations en français,
veuillez visiter le site : toronto.ca/Snow*

简体中文信息 : toronto.ca/Snow
繁體中文資訊 : toronto.ca/Snow

*Upang konsultahin and impormasyong
ito sa Tagalog bisitahin: toronto.ca/Snow*

*Para visualizar esta informação
em português visite: toronto.ca/Snow*

இந்தத் தகவலைத் தமிழில் பார்ப்பதற்கு
toronto.ca/Snow க்குச் செல்லவும்

*Para consultar esta información en español
visite: toronto.ca/Snow*

이 안내문의 한국어판을 보려면 다음
웹사이트를 방문하십시오: toronto.ca/Snow

Для просмотра этой информации на русском
языке перейдите по ссылке toronto.ca/Snow

اس معلومات کو اردو زبان میں دیکھنے کے لیے،
toronto.ca/Snow پر جائیں

برای مشاهده این اطلاعات به زبان فارسی
به این سایت مراجعه نمائید
toronto.ca/Snow

Call 311 | 711 Hearing Impaired Service | 311@toronto.ca
*Please wait at least 24-48 hours after snow stops falling
before contacting 311 – it takes time to clear the snow.*

[@cityoftoronto](https://twitter.com/cityoftoronto) [f](https://facebook.com/cityoftoronto) [i](https://instagram.com/cityoftoronto) [@cityofto](https://cityoftoronto.com)