



CITY OF THE DALLES
Department of Public Works
1215 West 1st Street
The Dalles, Oregon 97058

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: November 30, 2023

TOPIC: Citizen Snow Response Checklist

CONTACT: City of The Dalles Public Works Department (541) 296-5401

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

The City of The Dalles Public Works Department has made sure equipment is in good repair and stocked up to prepare our response to winter storm events. But City resources will be stretched to capacity once the snows begin. The job of snow removal is too big for City crews to tackle alone.

You can prepare to assist City crews with winter storms by making sure that the following equipment in good repair and supplies are on hand:

- Snow shovel and/or snow blower (with gas)
- Cooking spray for the snow shovel, so snow won't stick to the blade
- A stiff broom to sweep snow off of porches and decks
- Waterproof gloves with a good grip; waterproof boots with good traction
- Pet-friendly, child-safe, salt-free deicer that won't harm cement surfaces

While City crews are working hard, citizens will be asked to help in priority order:

- First priority: shovel and/or sand sidewalks adjacent to their homes or businesses. Safe passage should be cleared within the first two hours of daylight each day. Shoveled snow must be piled on private property, not in the street (except in the downtown area).
- Second priority: help a neighbor clear the sidewalk in front of their home. Snow that has accumulated on cars that are parked on city streets should be removed so that City plow operators will see the parked cars.

You can call a contractor or contact a volunteer organization before the snow flies if you need help with snow removal.

For more snow response information and a flyer about safe sidewalks and snow shoveling safety go to thedalles.org/winterweatherresponse or call Public Works office at (541) 296-5401.

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City of The Dalles Winter Weather Response Plan

Primary Objective: Keep as many arterial streets open and passable during the entire storm. Included with arterial streets are the emergency routes to the hospital. In order to accomplish this, we have implemented three phases during a snow storm.

Phase 1: Priority City Activities for Phase 1 are to sand, deice or plow intersections at all stop signs and stop lights on arterials, emergency routes, and steep north/south arterials as well as school bus snow routes. More than half of school bus routes will be plowed during Phase 1 snow removal activities. When the storm ends and Phase 1 snow removal activities are complete, a high priority will be assigned to school bus routes located on arterials and collectors during Phase 2 snow removal activities when school is in session.

Phase 2: When the storm ends and Phase 1 is complete, City crews will begin to sand, deice and plow collectors as well as those streets which are steep and would be otherwise unpassable or hazardous without sanding, deicing and/or plowing. Steep streets are classified as having grades in excess of 5%. A high priority will be assigned to school bus routes located on Phase 2 street classifications if school is in session.

Phase 3: City crews respond to citizen snow plow, deicing and sanding requests on minor collectors and local streets. During Phase 3 the City will also maintain or restore parking along curb lines in the Downtown Area