



Be Prepared

Before it snows, remember the past years' problems and try to prevent them in advance. If you shovel your own snow, have your tools and supplies handy. shovels, snow-blowers, and rock salt should be ready before the season. If you hire someone to do the job for you, make those arrangements early; it's tough to find someone in the middle of the storm.

If you have a driveway - use it. This protects your car from being splashed by salt spray, becoming plowed in, or being struck by a skidding vehicle. The more cars off the street, the better the job we can do.

If you don't have a driveway - please coordinate with your neighbors and park as close to the curb as possible on the even-numbered side of the street until the odd-numbered side has been plowed. You should then relocate your vehicle to the odd-numbered side so we can plow the even-numbered side. Plan alternate ways to travel to main routes and to and from your place of employment.

Make arrangements to have adequate food supplies on hand. Keep flashlights, a battery-powered radio, spare batteries, and a windup clock on hand in case of a power failure. If you use candles when the lights go out, get the long-lasting kind and have sturdy holders for them. Of course, be extremely careful about open flames and fire hazards.

Be Careful

When shoveling out the mouth of your driveway, throw the snow to the side or downstream. Do not throw it into the road - it will only be re-deposited when the snowplow comes around again. Also, a patch of snow or ice on a clear road will cause a hazardous condition.

Remember, snow shoveling is hard work. Don't overexert yourself and strain muscles that aren't used to strenuous exercise. Be aware of the stress that is put on your cardiovascular system. Don't become a victim of a stroke or heart attack. Also, be aware of cold injury, hypothermia (loss of body-heat), and the effects of frostbite. Most of all, use good judgment and plain old common sense.

Listen For Snow Alerts

Local news media will announce approaching storms and broadcast information on school closings and meeting cancellations. They will also note road closings and rerouting. The city broadcasts important information for residents on Greenbelt Municipal Access Television, Channel B-10.

Be Patient

Please don't go out during or immediately after a snowstorm unless it is truly necessary. Crews have

many hours of hard work to complete their snow clearing operations, and less traffic on the road means that we will be able to clear more quickly and completely.

It is each homeowner's responsibility to clear snow and ice from his/her own sidewalk for the safety and convenience of pedestrians. You should do this within 24 hours after the snowfall stops. Also, please be considerate of the refuse and recycling collection crews and clear a path to your garbage can area. They will appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Remember, whether it is your driveway and sidewalk for which you are responsible, or the many miles of city streets for which we are responsible, snow removal is an difficult and time consuming job. Please understand the city cannot shovel ridges or windrows from your driveway that were left by the snowplow, nor can we plow private property.

If you have already called about a legitimate driving hazard, please don't call a second time. We will get to it as soon as possible. The employees of the Greenbelt Public Works Department are loyal and dedicated to serve the citizens of our city. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.