



#Winter ReadyDC



@dcdpw



@dpwdc



@dcdpw



**DISTRICT
SNOW
TEAM**



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Introduction

Winter is upon us! When snow flies, the District Snow Team will be ready to pre-treat roads for ice and clear away snow. Depending on the predicted intensity of a storm, as many as 800 people from multiple DC government agencies and more than 500 trucks with plows and spreaders can be deployed for the duration of a storm.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) leads the team with support from the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). Additional support comes from the Departments of General Services, Corrections, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA), Serve DC and several other District agencies.

We want you to ready for the season ahead. Be sure to read on for myths and facts about the District Snow Program. For more information, check out [snow.dc.gov](https://www.snow.dc.gov).

Community Responsibilities

When clearing snow/ice from your sidewalk, **please shovel it into the treebox or the grassy area next to the sidewalk.** If there is no treebox or grassy area, please place snow/ice next to the curb away from the street and bike lanes.

Residential property owners **may be exempt from sidewalk shoveling enforcement if they live in their home and are 65 years old and/or a person with a disability.** Any resident who did not apply for and receive an exemption last year will need to submit an application. Please call 311 for more information.

Mayor Bowser and Serve DC need your help clearing entryways and sidewalks for our seniors and residents with disabilities. Volunteers are deployed when there are four or more inches of snow. **To join the DC Volunteer Snow Team,** please visit snowteam.dc.gov or call 311.

Businesses are responsible for removing snow and ice from the sidewalks around their property.



Myth:

Regular trash and recycling collections stop during winter weather events.

Fact:

As long as the weather does not impact the safety of District employees, regular collections will not be interrupted, including for bulk items.

Myth:

Certain streets are prioritized for snow and ice removal.

Fact:

Public safety determines the priority for snow removal in the District. The forecast determines the number of plow drivers and the snow and ice removal plan.

Residents can view the progress of DC's plows in real-time on the [snow.dc.gov](https://www.snow.dc.gov) website.



Myth:

The District Snow Team doesn't plow bike lanes but will remove snow from alleys.

Fact:

The District employs a "Non-Motorized Trails" unit to treat and clear bike paths, ADA ramps at intersections, bridge deck sidewalks, and bus shelters.

The District does not plow alleys.

Myth:

Leaf collections continue to follow the set collection schedule during a snow/ice storm.

Fact:

Leaf collections stop if there's a significant snow or ice storm. Leaf trucks are outfitted with plows and spreaders and used by the Snow Team until the streets are satisfactory. Additional delays can be expected when leaves are wet or frozen. For the latest leaf schedule updates, please visit dpw.dc.gov.

Myth:

Snow emergencies are declared for every winter storm.

Fact:

A snow emergency is declared to allow the District Snow Team to clear streets curb-to-curb when the weather prediction calls for a significant amount of snow and/or ice.

The Mayor's Office declares a snow emergency so the city can enforce No Parking along snow emergency routes throughout the city. Parking is prohibited on these routes to allow for unimpeded curb-to-curb ice treatment or plowing.

Motorists may not park on snow emergency routes (indicated by red and white street signs) during a snow emergency.

Myth:

The District Snow Team oversalts roads.

Fact:

The District weighs public safety concerns with environmental concerns when working to keep our roads and streets clear of ice.

The District Snow Team has ramped up its use of brine, which is made up of water, salt and beet juice, for pretreating roads. Salt truck operators also receive specialized training each year to minimize the amount of salt that goes on the roads.

Visit snow.dc.gov

Pinpoint latest snow closures.

Learn more about winter weather warnings.

Find nearest warming center.

Review live maps of where plows are throughout the city.

Learn where to park in a snow emergency.

Plus, much more!

#WinterReadyDC



**DISTRICT
SNOW
TEAM**



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR