

Winter will be here before we know it!



www.GrandForks.ca

With the winter season fast approaching the City of Grand Forks is asking residents to do their part in helping city crews make the snow removal process more efficient.

You can help by ensuring that all Vehicles, RV's, Boats and trailers are stored on your property and not on the side of the road; this keeps the boulevards clear providing easy access for snow removal equipment. As a reminder, under the City's Traffic Regulations Bylaw No. 1956, any vehicles, boats, trailers, RV's or recreational vehicles that do not have a current valid licence should be stored on the owner's property or at a storage facility. The City of Grand Forks would like to thank you in advance for helping keep the snow removal process simple and safe.

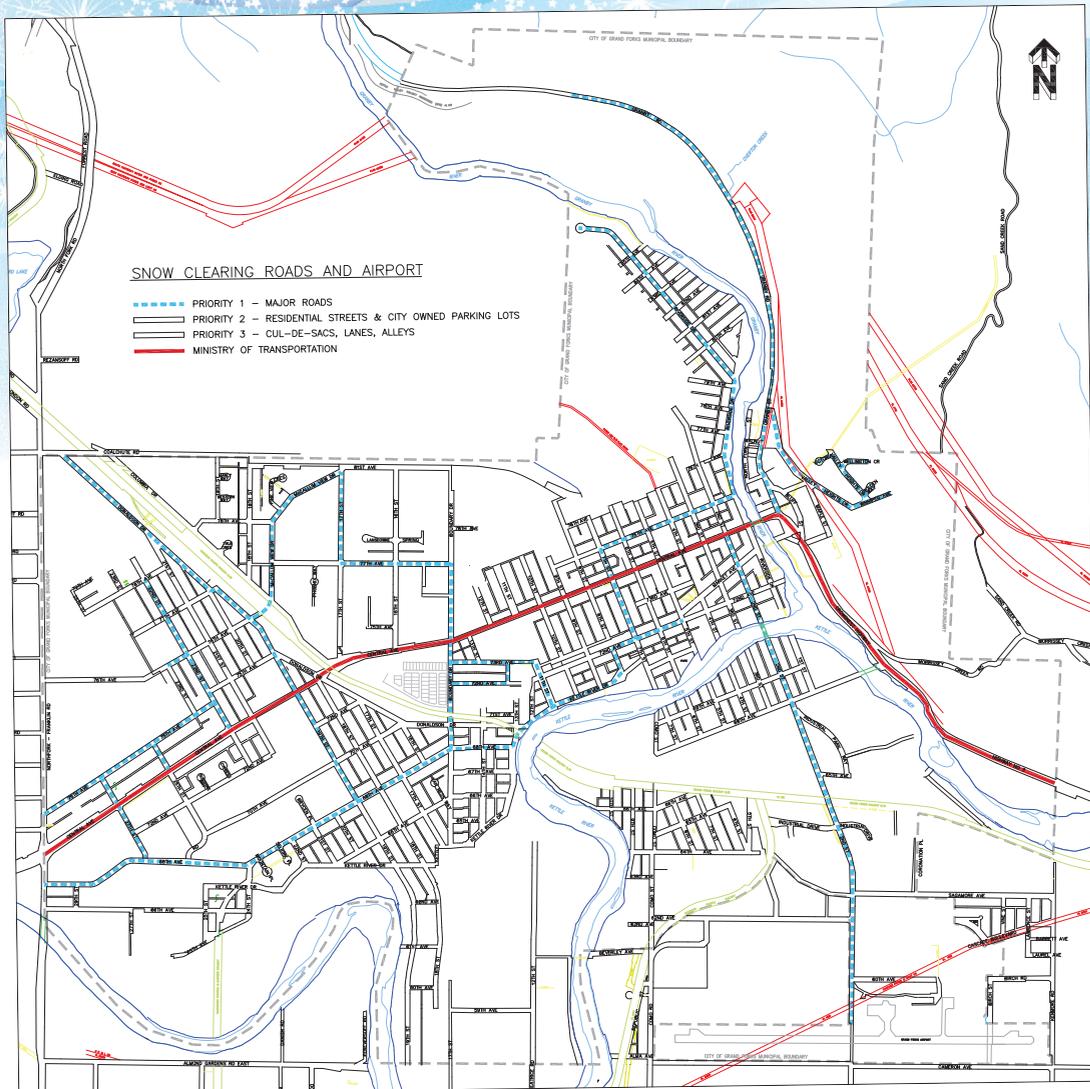
The public works crew will follow Council's policy on snow removal priorities.

After normal work hours, weekends and statutory holidays the crews will clear Priority #1 streets once there has been two inches or more of accumulation. If there is an accumulation of 4" or more additional crews will be sent out for sidewalk, and airport snow removal. During normal working hours you may see priority #1, 2 and or 3 being cleared of snow at the same time, which is due to man power and equipment available.

Please note that the City piles snow in some cul-de-sacs until they can be removed. For your children's safety, please instruct your children NOT play on these banks or make tunnels in them.

Downtown snow removal can be complex and will be cleared taking into consideration the amount of snow, temperature, time of day, day of week etc. The downtown core will be cleared when deemed necessary by the Manager of Operations. The removal of snow will be completed at night between the hours of 9pm and 6am to reduce the impact on local businesses during the day. To ensure the roads are cleared properly please avoid parking vehicles in the downtown core during these hours.

Snow piles will be placed in strategic locations to facilitate the clearing of the downtown alleys and storm drains free of snow. These may remain in place for up to 5 days after being piled depending on the weather and special circumstances.



FAQs

Thank you for your feedback regarding snow removal in the community.

Below are commonly asked questions we receive after a heavy snowfall.

Why does the snow plow leave a windrow in my driveway?

Plow operator must plow snow to the curb or right hand side of the road, and has limited control over the amount and direction that comes off the blade. The plow blade is at a set position, and does not have the ability to swivel around driveways and crown of the road. When clearing your driveway, try to pile the snow on the right side (standing in your driveway and looking towards the street). This can help reduce the amount of snow that is pushed onto your driveway when a snow plow passes.

Can the snow plow operator lift the blade at every driveway?

In order for our snow plow operators to provide the most efficient and cost-effective snow removal, continuous movement is required. With hundreds of driveways in the City, it is not practical or cost efficient for plow operators to lift their blades at every driveway. Since our main goal is to safely open roads as soon as possible, lifting the blade at each driveway would slow down the snow removal operation significantly and would leave snow in the road that may in turn be a hazard to motorists.

Can the snow plow trucks plow all the snow to the other side of the street where there

are no sidewalks or driveways?

The snow plows are designed to plow snow to the right hand side of the road. In order to plow all the snow to one side, the equipment would have to drive on the wrong side of the road creating an unsafe traffic situation and this would take more time which means the streets not serviced yet would have to wait longer. It is not an effective cost method based on the current level of service the City of Grand Forks provides.

Can I place the snow from my driveway or parking area onto the traveled portion of the street?

Residents are encouraged to avoid pushing or blowing snow from their sidewalk or driveway into the street because it is potentially creating a dangerous situation for motorists.

By placing the snow back onto the roadway after a plow truck has gone by creates issues for our snow removal crews. The plow will need to make an additional run down your street to clean it up which increases City's costs with additional staff time, fuel and equipment wear and tear, not to mention delays in getting to other areas of the City that also need to be plowed.

When will our street be plowed?

After a snowfall the streets are prioritized based on our snow removal policy No. 1103 and 1104, which outline the priority areas. Within the standard, the Priority 1 streets include such streets as main arteries, bus routes, hill areas and streets leading to schools and public buildings, and emergency services; once Priority 1 is com-

plete, then the City will clear Priority 2 and Priority 3 streets. In such circumstances, some residential streets may not see a plow for an extended period. These situations are the exception and we ask for your patience.

To view a copy of the Snow Removal Policy adopted by Council, please visit our website at www.grandforks.ca for further information.

Can the City's snow plow operator plow my driveway?

The City of Grand Forks does not perform work on private property.

Clearing snow is the responsibility of the City Public Works department and the community; help keep the community safe this winter! Here's how you can help:

- The City will ensure that all roads are passable as soon as possible. This is our number one priority.
- Park your vehicles in your driveway as opposed to the street.
- Stay back a safe distance from the rear of a plow truck so the driver can see you.
- Please avoid passing or driving beside plow trucks.
- Please avoid placing snow from your driveway back into the street. Less snow will be pushed into your driveway by passing plow trucks.
- If you can, help your neighbour with snow removal.

The City is committed to providing great service to our community and appreciates your feedback:
feedback@grandforks.ca