

CITY OF GLOVERSVILLE, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Common Snow Removal FAQ's

How does the City decide what streets are plowed first?

In removing the snow and ice, the City responds first to all main roads, hills and secondary main roads which must be kept passable to provide a safe transportation network to the largest volume of people. Once these areas are in passable condition, crews head to clear the residential side streets.

Why does the plow not remove all the snow from my road?

Residential side streets with low traffic volumes will remain snow covered longer. Salt is not very effective during heavy snow fall on side streets due to the low traffic volume needed to help activate the melting agents in road salt. Salt will be applied on side streets when the snowfall has slowed or stopped and when conditions exist that will make it effective or necessary. Salt applied on side streets with low vehicle traffic and during the course of active snow fall will get plowed out of the streets and onto the terrace, thereby squandering the use of the costly resource and the time, labor and equipment spent and used to deliver it. Salt is always applied within approximately 100 feet of all side street intersections and on all hills when side streets are plowed.

Why do the snowplows push snow into my driveway apron and who is responsible for clearing it?

Unfortunately, it cannot be avoided, and we apologize for the inconvenience it causes you. The snow must be removed from the traveled portion of the road for public safety. Snow left in driveway aprons by the city while snow plowing is the resident's responsibility to remove.

Why doesn't the city clean my driveway apron?

There are approximately 7,500 driveway aprons in the City. The time and cost to clean all the driveway aprons is prohibitive.

Can snow from my driveway be blown or plowed into the street?

Snow may not be pushed or blown into the street from private property, nor may it be pushed onto your neighbor's terrace and property. Please remind your snowplow service that they are not permitted to push snow onto the street or onto other property that it did not fall upon. Plowing snow into the streets from driveways can cause a significant traffic accident risk.

- Section 212-20 of the City code makes it illegal to throw or deposit snow on any street in the City of Gloversville.

Who is responsible for removing snow from the sidewalks?

Section 212-19 of the City code requires that all property owners must clear their sidewalks of snow and/or ice within 24 hours from the end of a snow or ice event.

Why doesn't the city salt the side streets?

We do salt side streets on a limited basis as conditions warrant. Excessive road salt usage is costly, has a negative environmental effect and reduces the longevity of the road surface.

Why can't you plow my street now?

We wish we had enough snowplows and operators to take care of every street right away, but we must adhere to a carefully laid out system for clearing the streets. If we allowed our plows to be diverted each time a special request was made, our system would be disrupted, and it would take far longer to get all the streets in the city cleared.