

How and when will Town streets be plowed?

Our **GOAL** is to maintain safe winter driving conditions on all major roads, including emergency vehicle, school bus and transit routes. We clear, sand and salt Town roads meeting or exceeding minimum standards required by the Province.

Each snowplow is designated on 1 of 14 routes of Town roads to clear. Staff act as soon as a snow event/ storm begins. Temperature, forecasts and rain all determine how and when plowing, sanding or salting should take place.

MINOR EVENT (less than 5cm)

SIGNIFICANT EVENT (5-30cm)

MAJOR EVENT (30+ cm)

Snow Plowing Priorities in order of service:

- 1) Major Arterial Roads
- 2) Major Collector Roads & Bus Routes
- 3) Business areas, Town facilities
- 4) Local Residential Streets
- 5) Sidewalks

When will I see a plow in front of my house?

It is our **GOAL** to address all roads within 24 hours of a snow event, but occasionally we have a snow fall that prevents us from meeting this goal. In the case of a major event, please be patient. Know your Town crews will get to your street as soon as possible.

Because our crews and resources are focused on major roads, at times in heavy snow, poorer driving conditions can be expected in residential areas. We work day and night to get to all our designated routes to make sure you can get to where you need to be.

IN AN EMERGENCY

The Town of Fort Erie is no stranger to snow events that constitute an emergency. Please refer to the following resources to keep yourself, your loved ones and your property safe during a winter emergency:



72 HOURS: Log on to www.town.forterie.ca/pages/Canyousurvivefor72hours to make sure you have the tools to keep your household prepared and safe in an emergency.

RADIO/ TV: Tune in to local radio and television stations for closure and road safety information.

WEATHER: Environment Canada Weather can be accessed online at weather.gc.ca/canada or at 905-227-3393.

For more detailed information on how and where we clear snow, to access our maps and read about our priorities visit us online at: www.town.forterie.ca/pages/SnowRemovalandWinterControl

Find us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/FortErie>

**Town of Fort Erie
Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**contactus@forterie.on.ca
905-871-1600**

To handle after-hours requests or concerns, the Town has a 24-hour standby service seven days a week. During major snowfalls, we ask that you limit calls to emergencies only.



Our Focus: Your Future



SNOW HOW



A Guide to Winter Control Services
in the Town of Fort Erie

www.forterie.on.ca

Before and after you hear the plow....how can you HELP?

Please don't park where we plow!

Parked vehicles at the curb prevent us from clearing your streets in a safe and efficient way. Make way for our plows after a snowfall and remember from November 1 to March 31 every year, on-street parking is prohibited by bylaw from 2:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Vehicles obstructing snow clearing operations during those hours are subject to a fine and may be towed at your expense. Please move your vehicles into driveways or parking lots so our crews can pass.

If your vehicle is parked illegally and ticketed, you will face a fine. If your vehicle is towed, please contact the Niagara Regional Police at 905-871-2300 to retrieve your vehicle.

Give us space.

DRIVEWAY SPACE:

We know shoveling is hard work. It is our priority to clear roads on the travelled portion of roadways but plow operators have limited control over amounts and the direction of snow being left behind. However, (looking out from your front door to the roadway) if you can pile your snow on the right side of your driveway and make our drivers a pocket for the pushed snow to fill in on the left side, this can greatly reduce having to go out and re-shovel after our crews have been by.

SNOWBANK SPACE:

Please keep children clear of snowbanks. Climbing on or digging into the snowbanks sounds fun, but it is dangerous.

CLEAR A SPACE:

If you have a utility or mail box, a catchbasin or fire hydrant in front of your property, clear a space around it. Accidents and emergencies happen, let's work together to avoid them.

NO SPACE:

Our bylaws prohibit anyone from shoveling, blowing or plowing snow onto our sidewalks or roads. You could be ordered to remove it or face a penalty if our crews have to do the job for you.

Remember, it's a BIG job.

Our crews clear snow and ice from 813 lane kms of roads. If our crews miss a street in the middle of the night, damage trees, sod, or pavement on your property, please call us. We will be back on the road or make repairs as soon as we can, weather permitting.

Clear any snow or ice from your sidewalks.

Snow and ice covered sidewalks pose a great danger to pedestrians. The elderly, people with strollers, scooter users, transit riders and those with health or mobility restrictions count on the Town of Fort Erie and its residents to remove snow from sidewalks within 24 hours after the end of a snowfall.

Not unlike the grass you maintain on your boulevards during the summer, each resident is requested to clear their sidewalks during the winter. For the Town to complete this task would require much more equipment and staff than we have. We do provide sidewalk clearing along major streets and in business areas to provide access to local services and schools.

Know your neighbourhood.

The Town clears snow and ice from municipal roads only. Roads owned by the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Niagara Parks Commission or the Ministry of Transportation are cleared by their crews and/or contractors.

Be a Snow Buddy!

We know our residents are out there helping their neighbours all year long, but you may be able to help a neighbour who requires assistance after a snow event. Snow Buddies is a local organization that is always looking to place volunteers with those who need winter help. Volunteer by calling **905-682-3800 Extension 28**.

A smart way to shovel your drive

How to reduce the possibility of getting a huge pile of snow in your driveway opening when snowplows clear your street:



ROAD CLASS		Class 3 MAIN ROADS	Class 4 SECONDARY ROADS	Classes 5 & 6 LOCAL ROADS
Start Winter Control Operations	Snow Depth	8 cm (3 in.)	8 cm (3 in.)	10 cm (4 in.)
Clear Within	Time Frame	12 Hours	16 Hours	24 Hours
Treat Icy Roadways	Time Frame	8 Hours	12 Hours	16 Hours
Service Level	Goal	Bare Pavement	Centre Bare Pavement	Snow Packed Surface