

NOVEMBER 2024

SNOW REMOVAL IN THE TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Information bulletin: snowplowing and snow removal within Town limits.

The Town of Rocky Mountain House has 56 kms of paved roads not including graveled or dust-controlled areas; 25 kms of graveled/paved alleys and 17 kms of walking trails.

Our goal is to establish reasonable mobility and clear a network of roads as quickly and efficiently as possible.

The Roadway Winter Maintenance Policy outlines how staff approach the large task of clearing snow from Town streets and trails, and other important points such as:

- **Defining minor and major snowfalls** (less than/greater than 13 centimeters).
- **Timelines** on when priority streets should be plowed and/or cleared to bare pavement (48 to 72 hours).
- **Order of priority for streets to be cleared.** Downtown core and service roads are the first to be plowed, followed by collectors and arteries, school route, residential collectors, industrial areas and other residential areas and cul-de-sacs.

Signage in advance of snow removal operations (ideally 12 to 24 hours' notice). Signs go up at the entrance to a subdivision/neighbourhood, but not necessarily at every cul-de-sac. Signing is not always possible, and depending on the amount of snow that has fallen crews may be moving quickly. **It can take up to three weeks to complete snow removal for the whole town**, providing it doesn't snow again during that time and assuming there are no other interruptions such as water main breaks, sewer backups or other emergencies.

Engineering & Operations crews will work on roadway winter maintenance between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.



Snowplowing and snow removal FAQ

- ❄️ When the grader enters your area it is best to move your vehicles off the street and if you can, stay off until the snow windrow is gone. When vehicles are parked on the street, especially on narrow streets, it is difficult for the snowblower and dump trucks to find adequate room to work.
- ❄️ Please do not park beside the windrow not allowing other vehicles to pass. Traffic Bylaw 2023/07 establishes a \$100 fine for parking in a manner that obstructs traffic. Parking in a posted “No parking – street cleaning/snow clearing” area is also subject to a \$100 fine.
- ❄️ Every street within the town limits is plowed at least one time. Engineering & Operations documents progress through town, street-by-street. On some occasions when we get multiple snow falls, we have to start over with priority 1 areas. Snow removal is put on hold if we have water breaks or wastewater issues.
- ❄️ Alleys or back lanes are generally done on a complaint basis or as the Director sees fit.
- ❄️ Town-maintained sidewalks are cleared within 48 hours of a snowfall. This includes Main Street bulbs, sidewalks in front of town owned buildings, 22 parks and playgrounds and green spaces. We clear sidewalks after every snow fall, usually right away, then lay salt/sand.
- ❄️ Walking trails are usually plowed within 48 hours after accumulation of more than 2.5 centimetres.

FURTHER READING

The Roadway Winter Maintenance policy outlines how the Town of Rocky Mountain House tends to roads and trails during and after a snowfall.

The map of snowclearing zones shows the order of priority for our crews and equipment.

These documents are available at www.rockymtnhouse.com.

EQUIPMENT AT WORK

- 1 grader
- 1 loader with snow blower
- 3 dump trucks
- 1 skid steer
- 2 rear steer Kubotas with snow blades
- 1 v-plow truck

There is a \$100 fine for failing to observe no-parking signs in snow removal areas.



Be a kind snow neighbour

Help make winter a little easier for everyone

Rocky Mountain House can be a real Winter Wonderland! But piles of snow and cold temperatures also bring challenges.

No amount of snow clearing or sanding will recreate summer driving conditions in winter. Please drive accordingly! Give yourself extra time to get to where you need to go, and consider these winter-living tips.

Sidewalk sand is available for your use. Pick it up anytime outside the Public Works Yard! (4707-48 St) or at the Rocky Regional Recreation Centre.



Rocky Regional Recreation Centre overflow parking lot (5332-50 St)



- ❄️ Pick up rubber curbs/driveway ramps.
- ❄️ Bring in garbage/organics bins as soon as you can to make room for snow removal and sanding.
- ❄️ Clear all sidewalks adjacent to your house within 48 hours of a snowfall. Not everyone drives; this ensures everyone can get around safely. Snow from the sidewalk can be shoveled into the road.
- ❄️ Snow cleared from your driveway has to stay on your property.
- ❄️ Do NOT bury hydrants!
- ❄️ Avoid spinning tires at intersections if you can. *(It polishes the ice and sends the salt/sand away from where it needs to be).*



Snow clearing: It's a team effort!