



2020-2022

# Town of Shediac Snow Clearing Operations Policy

General Policy No. 21



# Our mission

is to provide a consistent level of snow and ice removal within the Town of Shediac to keep our streets and infrastructure safe for the public. We aim to offer the best possible service with our available resources, as economically as possible.



**WHEN SNOW ACCUMULATION IS HIGHER THAN 30 CM, THE GOAL IS TO CLEAR THE SNOW AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE BASED ON AVAILABLE PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT.**

## Facts on Snow Removal in Shediac:

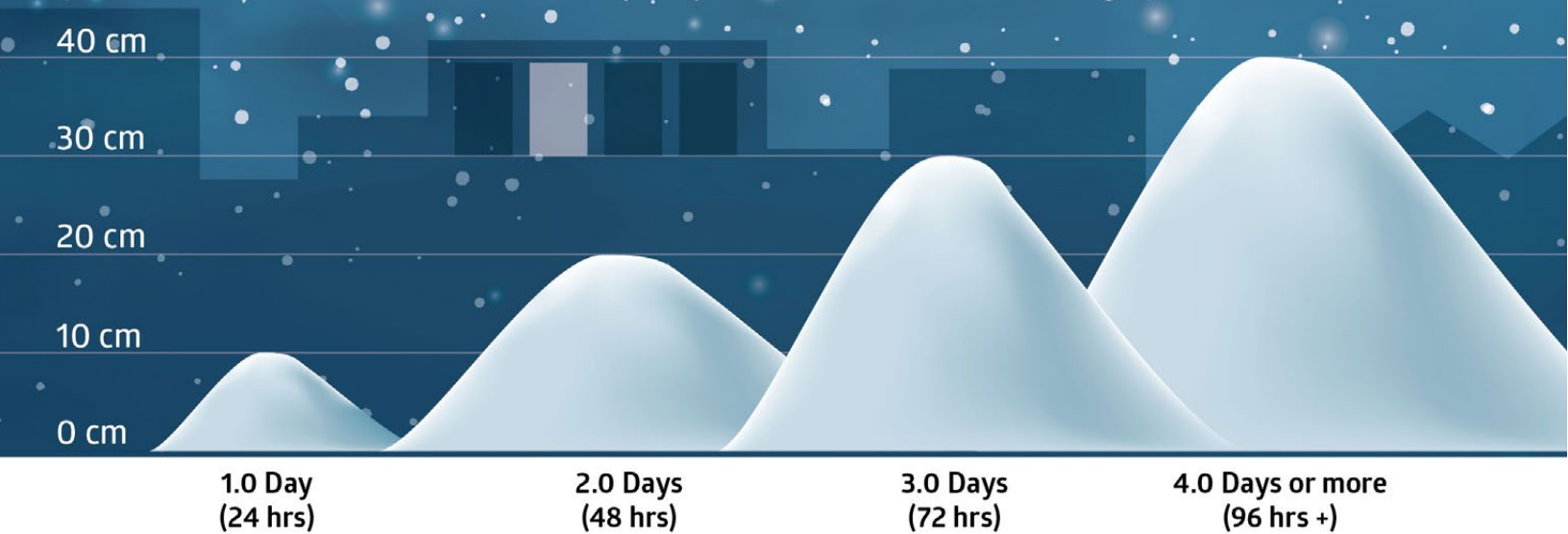
- We have nine pieces of equipment for snow clearing operations: 5 pieces of equipment are used for clearing the streets, 2 pieces of equipment are used to clear the sidewalks, and 2 pieces of equipment are utilized to clear public parking lots.
- In addition, the municipality has a snowblower that attaches to one of the pieces of equipment for clearing snowbanks and widening streets. A tractor and a one-ton truck are used for snow removal on trails.
- Every storm is different. Typically, the team will get out early in the morning to ensure a complete snow removal before traffic becomes too busy. Each snow removal operation lasts about 4-6 hours. This varies according to the amount and type of snow (wet/heavy/dry/powdery).
- The municipality is responsible for removing snow from approximately 65 km of streets (130 km of lanes).
- Every year, we advise the public that it is prohibited to park a vehicle on the streets of the Town of Shediac between midnight (12 a.m.) and 7 a.m. from the first day of November of any year until the first day of April the following year. This policy is to aid in the removal of snow on town streets. It is also prohibited to place or throw snow on a street, sidewalk, or other public places.
- All Public Works equipment has been equipped with GPS tracking since 2020, which helps the department track snow-clearing equipment and optimize snow routes. This equipment can also be upgraded in the future to monitor the quantity of salt used on our roads.
- Every Fall, municipal operations personnel place markers throughout the Town to identify sidewalks and street limits. These markers are very crucial for snow removal operations, especially when a high amount of snowfalls occur. Please do not remove them.
- For cul-de-sacs, the objective is to push and stockpile snow in a way that doesn't block private entrances. Where space is limited between private entrances, the snow will be temporarily stockpiled near the centre of the cul-de-sac.

# Snow Clearing Operations

The Town of Shediac provides snow removal and de-icing for streets, sidewalks, and trails within the town limits, according to pre-established priorities based on the traffic volume of the streets within our transportation network.

High-volume streets are maintained first during weather events and receive a higher level of service. Always remember that, even if you don't reside on a high-traffic volume street, you most likely must use one as part of your everyday commute.

## APPROXIMATE DURATION OF SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS



## Municipal Infrastructure :

- 65 km of streets (therefore 130 km of lanes)
- 22 km of municipal sidewalks & 12 km of multipurpose trails
- Municipal parking lots (arena & Multipurpose Centre, fire station, Victoria Street parking lot, and CBDC parking lot)
- Parks & facilities
- Water Treatment Plant and five pumping stations for municipal wells
- 425 fire hydrants
- The recreation department takes care of the snow removal for the following infrastructure during a storm:
  - \* Outdoor skating rinks
  - \* Multipurpose Centre and arena (entrances, egress doors, sidewalks, etc.)
  - \* Outside the operations centre (door on the north and east side)

THE DURATION OF SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS MAY VARY IN LENGTH DEPENDING ON THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

- TYPE OF SNOW (HEAVY, MELTING, POWDERY)
- EQUIPMENT BREAKDOWNS
- MORE PRECIPITATION DURING SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS
- EXTERIOR TEMPERATURES



# Stages of Snow Removal Operations

## 1. INITIAL RESPONSE:

At the very beginning of the weather event, salt can be spread on all arterial streets and major collector streets. This step eliminates the freezing of the first snowfall on the road

- surface and helps to clear the road completely.
- For light snowfall/weather events, this is often the only step required with no actual snow plowing.

## 2. SNOW CLEARING OPERATIONS (PRIORITIES):

### a) STREETS

#### Priority 1: Major arteries and high-traffic collector streets

*(Example: Main, Hannington, Breaux Bridge, Chesley)*

During snow weather events, these streets are continuously cleared as much as possible.

Salt is applied as required to keep traffic lanes clear during and after the weather event.

#### Priority 2: Remaining collector streets and certain high-traffic local streets

*(Example: Belliveau, Pascal-Poirier, Sackville, Monique)*

These streets are cleared of snow when the snow accumulation reaches five to eight centimeters. Salt/and sand is spread after the snow weather

event to maintain the entire width of the streets cleared.

#### Priority 3: Local streets in general

After five to eight centimeters of snow accumulation, they are cleared, and salt is spread for de-icing.

Snow removal continues until the snow weather event is over and all the streets are cleared of snow. Typically, the Municipal Operations team will return after the snowfall to widen the streets and clear intersections

#### Once the Storm is over...

When the storm is over, the following infrastructures are cleared of snow by the municipality:



SEVERAL PASSES MAY BE REQUIRED TO CLEAR THE STREET PROPERLY. IF POSSIBLE, ALWAYS WAIT FOR SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE CLEARING YOUR DRIVEWAY SO THAT YOU ONLY HAVE TO CLEAR THE SNOW ONCE.

- \* Rotary Park parking lot, Lino Rd Parking, Maison Pascal Poirier (access only in case of emergency)
- \* Dysart Road
- \* Parking of the Operations Center
- \* Lino Road (detention centre to Riverside Drive)
- \* Water treatment plant and five well buildings
- \* 425+ fire hydrants
- \* Snow removal in the city centre (this must be done before 7:00 a.m. to avoid causing traffic hazards)
- \* Snow removal at intersections when the amount of snow prevents good visibility
- \* As for the snow stockpiled near the downtown core, we bring it to the Town's designated area on Lino Road the day after the storm (if possible). However, if there is more than one storm in a row, the snow could remain stockpiled for a few days.

## b) SIDEWALKS & PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Town of Shediac's sidewalks and pedestrian crossings are cleared per the following pre-established priorities:

### Priority 1: High-volume pedestrian traffic areas.

*(Examples: Downtown Shediac, Main, Belliveau, Pascal-Poirier, Breaux Bridge, Chesley)*

The objective is to clear priority 1 sidewalks within 24 hours of the end of a snow weather event of 30cm or less.

### Priority 2: Low-volume pedestrian traffic areas.

*(Examples: Gallagher Street, Brown Street, Smith Avenue)*

The objective is to clear priority 2 sidewalks within two days after clearing priority 1 sidewalks in a major snow event. Normally, all sidewalks should be cleaned within 24 hours.



### c) MUNICIPAL TRAILS

The Town of Shediac's municipal trails are cleared in accordance with the following priorities:

**Priority 1: Trails located near schools and school bus stops.**

*(Examples: Trail along Pascal-Poirier, Trail through Downtown Shediac)*

The objective is to clear priority 1 trails within 24 hours of the end of the weather event.

**Priority 2: Trails located elsewhere within the town limits.**

*(Examples: Trail along Hwy. No. 15, Trail from Pointe du Chêne Rd. to Pascal Poirier)*

Priority 2 trails will only be cleared during regular work hours. The objective is to complete them within five days of the end of the weather event.

The following trails are not cleared of snow by the Town of Shediac:

- \* The trail from Pointe du Chêne to Parlee Beach; snow clearing equipment cannot cross the bridge safely.
- \* Snowshoeing and fat biking trails at the Lino Rd future park are maintained by the Shediac Outdoors Association.
- \* Walking Track at John Lyons Park and Pascal Poirier.

SALT IS ONLY USED AS NEEDED. WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO USE AS LITTLE SALT AS POSSIBLE SINCE OUR WATER SYSTEM IS SUPPLIED BY MULTIPLE POTABLE WATER WELLS, WHICH ARE ALL LOCATED WITHIN THE TOWN'S LIMITS. NORMALLY, SALT IS USED ON MAIN STREET AND AT INTERSECTIONS. THE PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN JUDGES WHETHER IT IS NECESSARY TO APPLY SALT TO ADDITIONAL PLACES.

## 3. SNOW DISPOSAL FROM SNOW CLEARING OPERATIONS

After the primary snow clearing operations are finished, depending on the situation, snow may be stockpiled and removed from the sides of major arterial streets. This is mainly for the downtown core and along Shediac Main Street. The snow is loaded onto the Town's tandem trucks and transported to a dedicated snow dump location. (Lino Road)

Snow windrows are the pile of snow left at the bottom of a driveway after a plow clears the road. When it blocks driveways, the windrow may require removal and is the responsibility of the private property owners.



# Assist our Municipal Operations Team:

During severe accumulations, snow may be cleared from sides of important intersections to improve vehicle traffic visibility distances. The Town does not have available resources to permit the removal of snow accumulated on the side of all town's streets. However, if it is necessary to ensure public safety, streets can be widened by blowing snow over and/or hauling it away to the Town's designated site.

During snow removal within the downtown core and on Main Street (various locations), the Town will pile snow on both sides of the street. These snow piles are to be picked up and trucked to the Town's designated area as soon as possible within the Town's available resources. By doing so, we eliminate, as much as possible, the need for pedestrians having to climb over snowbanks resulting from the snow clearing operations.

Under no circumstances should snow be stored on city streets or cul-de-sac. This could cause localized flooding when temperatures rise.



As per the Overnight Parking Restrictions policy adopted by the Town of Shediac, winter parking restrictions within the Town of Shediac are in effect from November 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year to April 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year. During this period, parking is prohibited on any street from midnight to 7 a.m. for snow clearing operations.



Do not park your vehicle near the end of your driveway, where it may block the passage of municipal snow clearing equipment.



Avoid spinning your tires at intersections. This is dangerous and poses a risk to surrounding motorists. It also contributes to ice accumulation on the road surface.



Do not push snow from private driveways or parking lots onto municipal streets, sidewalks, or fire hydrants.



Please place garbage containers where they cannot be buried or damaged by municipal snow clearing operations.



Please try to keep the sluce boxes and catch basins adjacent to your property free of snow and ice to facilitate surface water drainage.



\*All motorists are responsible for adjusting their speed and driving according to road conditions. If the roads are icy or snow-covered, please slow down!

# APPENDIX A

## STREETS

-  1<sup>st</sup> Priority (in green)
-  2<sup>nd</sup> Priority (in blue)

## TRAILS

-  1<sup>st</sup> Priority (in red)
-  2<sup>nd</sup> Priority (in orange)

