



WINTER CONTROL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Why spread salt on the roads before plowing?

The Town spreads rock salt on streets with minimal snow cover prior to plowing. The snow assists the salt through a chemical reaction, to become a brine (i.e. liquid).

The liquid (rock salt & snow) helps prevent snow and ice from bonding to the road surface. The salt remains on the driving portion of the roadway.

This process is not as advanced as spraying (anti-icing) of magnesium chloride on streets in advance of a snow storm to improve road safety. Magnesium chloride liquid is applied at various concentrations depending on temperature and anticipated volumes of snow.

Why can't the Town remove snow from my driveway entrance?

There would be a significant investment in equipment and increase in the winter control budget to remove snow from over 3,500 driveways in Arnprior. The present service is the most economical to the taxpayer.

When shoveling your driveway, always pile the snow on the left side of the driveway (facing the property), NOT on the roadway. This will give you a better line of vision of the traffic coming and when our plows go by, we will not drag your shoveled piles back into your driveway entrance.

May I place the snow from my driveway onto the traveled portion of the street?

No! Placing snow on the traveled portion of the roadway is not permitted under the Town's By-law. This regulation helps to ensure that potentially dangerous situations for motorists are avoided.

Why does the plow go by once, and after I clean my sidewalks and driveway, the plow comes by again?

The sander trucks are efficient to clear a single lane and get traffic moving, then on a priority basis, snow removal equipment will come back to your street and plow the rest of the street to the curbs or back of sidewalks.

This not only clears sidewalks in areas where we do not undertake 'sidewalk clearing / snow removal', but also ensures adequate storage for future snowfalls.

A sander truck with a plow and wing spans only 16'. If plows are angled, this distance is reduced. This typically requires a sander truck to travel a roadway 4 times.

Why are there piles of snow along the edge of the road?

Snow is plowed to the edge of the road by the sander truck as well as the sidewalk plow. This creates a pile along the edge (curbline) of the road for future snow removal (i.e. snow blower route). This is only undertaken on streets where we have snow removal operations.

Generally in the evening or overnight, the blower will travel the roadside, blowing the snow into trucks to be transported to the snow dump.

Why can't the trucks plow all the snow to the other side of the street where there are no sidewalks or driveway?

Snowplows are designed to plow snow to the right hand side. 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.

Why can't the Town remove the snow from the sidewalk in front of my property?

As with driveway snow clearing, when you consider the length of sidewalks in the Town, it is just too costly and time consuming to use additional people and equipment to perform this service for all areas.

Why is there more snow on my side of the street or I get more snow dumped in my driveway than my neighbour?

There are several factors that effect why one area has more volume than another, including:

- Sun / shade
- Direction home faces (south, north, east, or west)
- Number and distance between driveways
- Adjacent to a corner or curve
- Prevailing winds / drifting
- Vehicles / obstacles in roadway
- Neighbour pushes their snow onto the street
 - Centre cross-over of plow

I have trouble shoveling my sidewalk and/or driveway. What can I do?

Hopefully a volunteer neighbour, or a relative, will assist you, or a young person in the neighbourhood could be hired for a small fee.

How can I help the Town do a good job?

One of the main obstacles for equipment operators is parked vehicles. Once snow starts, removing your vehicles from the street or cul-de-sac until the roads are cleared will allow the operations to do a much better job.