

When snow begins to fall in Saint Paul, the Public Works Department monitors conditions throughout the city and plows busy arterial and collector streets; working around the clock keeping them drivable. As the snow amounts start to accumulate the city prepares to declare a Snow Emergency.

### When is a Snow Emergency declared?

A Snow Emergency is declared after snowfalls of usually **3"** or more or an accumulation of **3"** over several days.

Public Works typically announces the Snow Emergency by 3:00 p.m. when notification to our media resources begins.

### What does it mean when a Snow Emergency is declared?

Public Works crews begin plowing the streets at 9:00 pm the night a Snow Emergency has been declared. To do so, the streets need to be clear of vehicles in order for the city's fleet to plow the street from curb to curb.

The city will issue tickets and tow vehicles not moved in time for the plows to begin removing snow.

To avoid a ticket and tow, please remove your vehicle from the street until it has been completely plowed from curb to curb.

If you are ticketed and towed during the Snow Emergency, your vehicle will be impounded at one of two impound lots:

- If a vehicle is towed **north** of Interstate 94, it will be taken to 1129 Cathlin; located south of Como and west of Snelling across from the Fair Grounds. Please call 651-603-6895.
- If a vehicle is towed **south** of Interstate 94 it will be taken to 830 Barge Channel Road; located near Highway 52 and Concord Street. Please call 651-266-5642.
- To report a vehicle that should be moved call: 651-487-4700.

### Snow Emergency Facts:

- Saint Paul is nearly 56 square miles and Public Works plows 1,894 lane miles of street.
- 80 pieces of equipment are used per shift during a snow emergency.
- The city averages four Snow Emergencies per season.
- The city's snow plow information is available in 14 languages on the website. They include: Spanish, Hmong, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Lao, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Somali, Arabic, Nuer, Oromo, Amharic, French and English.



# Saint Paul Snow Emergency Information



The Most Livable  
City in America

**All Streets are *either* a Night Plow Route or a Day Plow Route.**

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How to stay informed...

**By Phone 24-hours A Day:**

Call (651) 266-PLOW (651-266-7569), the city's Snow Emergency hotline with a current recorded message or;  
Call 651-292-6600 Street Maintenance Division's 24-hour phone line.

**By Email and Text Alert:**

Sign up for **SnowAlert** and receive an email and/or text alert.

[www.stpaul.gov/snowalert](http://www.stpaul.gov/snowalert)

**Check the Web:** [www.stpaul.gov](http://www.stpaul.gov)

When a snow emergency is declared the city's home page displays the red Snow Emergency plow signs. For the duration of the Snow Emergency each webpage displays an **orange** "Snow Emergency" bar.

Check the Public Works Snow Plowing information webpage:

[www.stpaul.gov/publicworks](http://www.stpaul.gov/publicworks) click on: "snow plowing information"

**Follow us on Twitter:**

[www.twitter.com/stpaulpublicw](http://www.twitter.com/stpaulpublicw)

**Radio and TV:**

Listen to local radio stations.

Watch local television newscasts for Snow Emergency Declarations.

Local Cable Channel 18 provides information regarding Snow Emergencies.

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**Night Plowing**



**When:** Starts at 9:00 p.m. the night a Snow Emergency is declared and continues into the morning until the street is plowed to the curb.

**Where:** The streets marked with signs that say NIGHT PLOW ROUTES plus one side of north/south residential streets with signs that say NIGHT PLOW ROUTE THIS SIDE OF STREET.

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**Day Plowing**

**Day Plow Routes  
DO NOT have signs**

**When:** Begins after the Night Routes are plowed to the curb, typically around 8 AM the following day.

**Where:** East-west residential streets *plus* one side of the north-south residential streets – the side without the night plowing signs.

**Note:** there are some exceptions to these rules and those exceptions are well marked.

**Parking is banned until snow is plowed all the way to the curb on these routes.**

How you can help...

**Ahead of the snow falling...**

- Pay attention to weather forecasts.
- Familiarize yourself with Snow Emergency information and parking rules.
- Find a location to move your vehicle.
- Check the city's website for current information.

**While the snow is falling...**

- Monitor snow accumulation.
- Check the city's website and/or phone numbers for a Snow Emergency declaration.
- Move your vehicle according to snow emergency parking rules.
- Visit, phone, or email your neighbors to remind them of parking rules.

**After the snow falls...**

- Remove snow and ice from your sidewalk within 24 hours of snowfall.
- Remove snow near fire hydrants.
- Check on elderly or disabled neighbors.
- Be sure trash and recycling containers are visible; not buried under snow.