



SNOW & ICE CONTROL PLAN

2024-2025



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Map of all snow routes can be provided upon request

City-wide Map Information online at:

[City of Cincinnati - Snow Priority Routes](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Public Services (DPS) Snow and Ice Control Plan is designed to serve as an operational guide for the City of Cincinnati. It outlines the effective use of resources, identifies communication strategies, and defines the levels of service residents can anticipate. The plan aims to maximize services while minimizing environmental impact and being cost-efficient.

The goal of DPS is to remove snow and ice from Cincinnati roadways as rapidly and practically as possible. This does not always mean pavement will be bare and dry, but it will be passable. While the severity of each winter storm is unpredictable, DPS will continue to work within its resources to maintain the highest level of customer service possible while balancing efficiency in snow and ice control.

Snow and ice control can account for more than 33% of the division's budget. Therefore, a well-planned and executed winter operations plan is imperative. Preparation includes an analysis of the previous year's issues and challenges, equipment readiness, manpower, emergency equipment rental, training, material inventory, and current technology.

The Traffic and Roads Operations Division (TROD) of DPS is responsible for coordinating winter roadway safety for approximately 3112 lane miles. These lane miles consist of thoroughfares, bridges, overpasses, side streets, cul-de-sacs, and alleyways. Priority routes are determined by traffic volume, access to emergency routes, access to public transportation, and access to schools. The priority plan for snow removal divides streets into 67 primary routes, 97 residential routes, and 54 (priority 3) pickup truck routes.

Individual snow events in Cincinnati vary in severity. During a typical winter, Cincinnati averages 20 to 25 inches of accumulation with temperatures of 20°F and above. A variety of factors are considered when preparing for a snow-and-ice event, including:

- Rate and accumulation of snowfall
- Moisture content
- Presence of sleet and freezing rain
- Temperature during and after a storm
- Wind velocity
- Time of day
- Storm duration
- Intervals between storms

These factors are considered when establishing protocols. Depending on the response necessary for the event, snow removal operations will include primarily the DPS Divisions: TROD, Facilities Management, Fleet and Neighborhood Operations; however, this may include other City agencies and staff depending on the magnitude of the weather event.

Making the City of Cincinnati's Snow and Ice Control Plan effective requires the cooperation of many partners, including, but not limited to, DPS, emergency responders, and most importantly, the residents of Cincinnati. This document is divided into categories. Each category contains practices DPS has developed, adopted, and/or tested to enhance snow and ice control. This plan is updated annually.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Winter Operations communications outreach aims to keep Cincinnati residents informed about DPS efforts to ensure safe driving conditions during significant weather events.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

DPS manages snow and ice control from the DPS Dispatch Center and works closely with the City's Customer Service Center which operates 24 hours a day to assist with operations, police, fire, and service requests.

- **Phone-based Service Requests:** Customer Service staff monitor the 311 phone line and enter service requests into the Customer Service Request (CSR) system.
- **Phone App Service Requests:** Service requests can be submitted via the "311Cincy" app for iPhones and Androids, or at 311Cincy.com.
- **Dispatching:** Customer Service collaborates with operations staff to ensure systematic route treatment and addresses specific complaints and emergency conditions.
- **Web-based Service Requests:** The CincyInsights project provides real-time snow plow tracking and other datasets through dashboards accessible via the City's website and the Open Data Cincinnati portal.

Media Request Intake

Media outlets can contact 352-NEWS for information or to schedule interviews. Requests are entered into the service request system, notifying the Public Information team, Operations Superintendent, and Department Director. Media may also directly contact the Public Information team.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Message Development

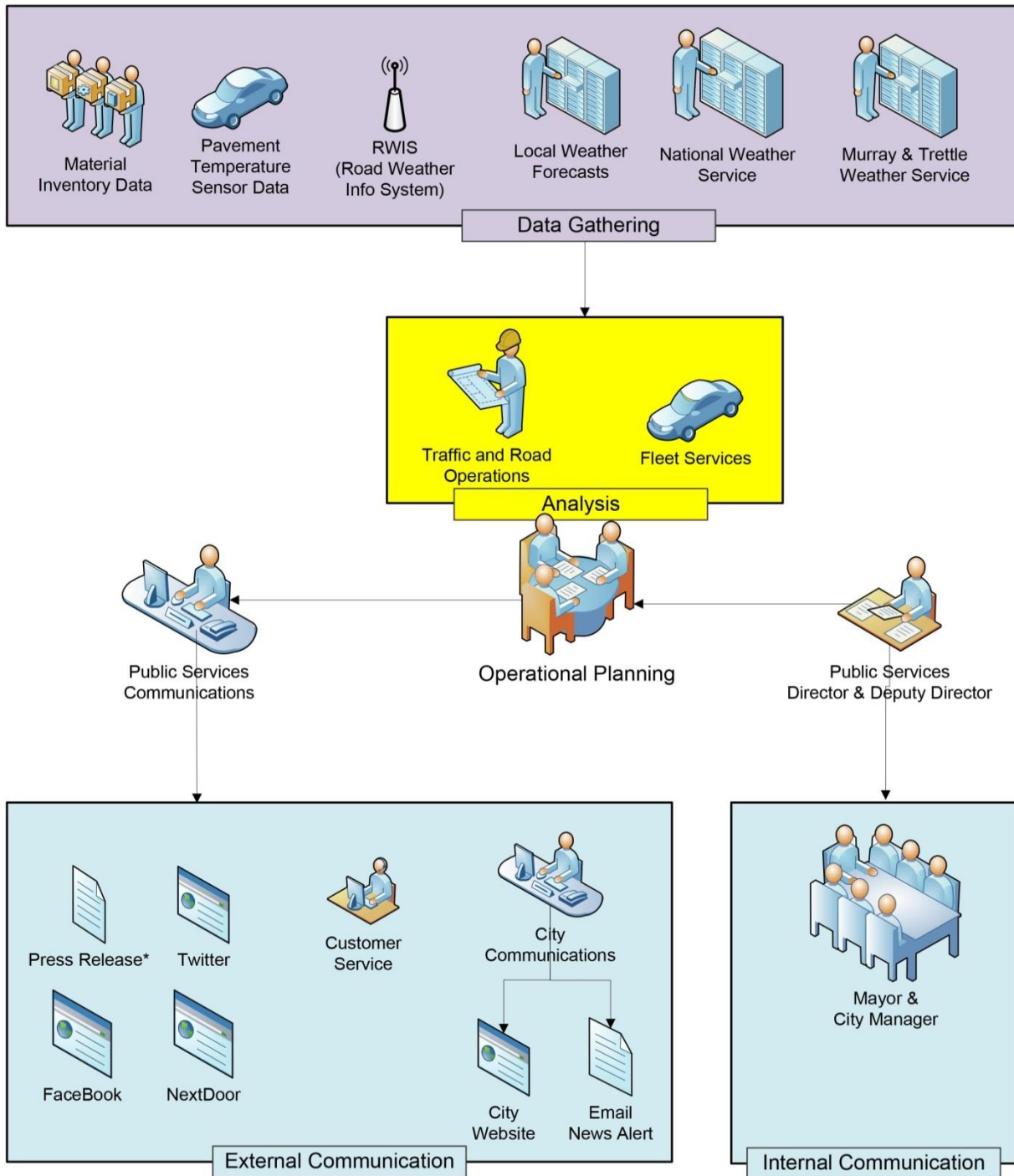
- Operations managers provide operational and logistical information, as well as road conditions, to the Public Information staff. During larger events, formal planning meetings facilitate information sharing.
- The Public Information staff prepares and distributes communications.

Message Distribution

- Media releases are timed to coincide with broadcast media cycles.
- **Social Media Responses:** The Public Information team monitors social media accounts and responds to questions and concerns efficiently. Residents are encouraged to submit service requests via the City's call center, website, or mobile applications for rapid response.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKFLOW

Communications Workflow for Winter Operations Event



*Press Releases are distributed via email to local media, City Council, City Administration, Community Councils and Neighborhood Partners

GENERAL GUIDELINES

MONITORING SNOW/ICE EVENTS

From November through March, DPS monitors weather forecasts for approaching winter storms. This service is crucial for predicting local weather and road conditions. Daily forecasts include snow and ice warnings, extended weather forecasts, and predicted pavement temperatures. Pavement temperatures are monitored using mounted temperature controls on vehicles and handheld devices carried by supervisors. This information helps determine the type, timing, and duration of snow and ice operations. Forecasts are sent electronically to DPS at least twice daily, seven days a week. DPS also reviews reports from local media and the National Weather Service.

PLANNING FOR SNOW/ICE EVENTS

Staff continuously monitor weather conditions and will begin planning once a storm is forecasted. Each storm is **individually evaluated** during a pre-event planning meeting. This meeting is used to develop an operations plan. A basic plan will examine the following:

- Type of event
- Expected accumulation
- Predicated pavement temperature
- Materials inventory
- Treatment types
- Usage strategy
 - Pretreating ahead of the event (anti-icing)
 - Treating during an event (de-icing)
- Condition and availability of equipment
- Scheduling of crews
 - Depending on the expected size, duration, and temperature of the event, crews may work 12-hour shifts (7 a.m. to 7 p.m. /7 p.m. to 7 a.m.) or smaller teams may be deployed.
- Scheduled public activities
 - Conventions, concerts and sporting events, etc. are all taken into consideration when developing a response plan.

STRATEGIES

DPS deploys two strategies when pretreating and treating roadways: anti-icing and de-icing. While both strategies make use of chemical freezing point depressants, they differ in fundamental objectives. Anti-icing techniques are used to prevent the formation or development of bonded snow and ice by timely applications of a chemical. This strategy is a proactive approach and is used before or at the very beginning of a storm, typically on dry pavement. De-icing techniques are used as a bond-breaking method only after snow or ice has accumulated and bonded to the road.

Anti-icing begins with the use of dry, liquid, or pre-wetted materials. Crews will proactively anti-ice bridges, hills, and overpasses on a regular schedule during the winter season. Because of the increased danger to the public, these locations are given special attention. These locations remain on a regular schedule throughout the winter season as they're more susceptible to ice.

Other locations will receive pretreatment based on predictions from the weather forecast. It is important to note streets not receiving anti-icing material before the snowfall **may not** receive

material until the pavement temperature has dropped and pavement conditions are wet, slushy, or covered in light snow, to avoid wasting material that could possibly be plowed away.

De-icing techniques begin with plowing, using dry or liquid materials, application of heat (friction), or a combination of these practices. Rock salt has generally been used as a de-icing agent in the past as it was once the most economical option and available in large quantities. However, this is no longer practical as the cost of salt has increased.

The method of applying salt to the pavement is only effective when temperatures are above 20° to 25°F, there is sufficient precipitation or moisture on the pavement, and traffic volumes are appropriate. Salt, a dry de-icing chemical, becomes effective once wet and dissolves into a brine solution. When pavement becomes wet, it uses moisture from water, snow, or slush on the road service to make brine.

During unusual circumstances, it may become necessary to employ measures to provide temporary traction or de-icing material conservation through the use of abrasives. Sand, which is considered an abrasive, can be used when snow bonds are formed and rapid, increased friction is required. If temperatures reach a level too cold for chemical de-icers to work, DPS will use sand to provide better traction. Once the bond is broken and sufficient snow and ice are removed, the department can return to preventive anti-icing operations.

Plowing is the most effective practice of removing compacted snow or loose ice before applying chemicals. If pavement and snow are cold and dry, and the snow in tire tracks is not adhering to the pavement, the application of chemicals will have an insignificant effect. Plowing at this point is the appropriate operation.

When large amounts of accumulation occur where plowing is not possible, snow is hauled away. This mainly occurs only in the Cincinnati Business District (CBD). Crews haul the snow using backhoes and frontend loaders to fill trucks and haul the snow to an authorized snow dumping area.

MATERIALS

The City of Cincinnati has the capability to stockpile a maximum of 24,000 tons of rock salt (sodium chloride), 29,000 gallons of calcium chloride, 58,500 gallons of salt brine, and 8,500 gallons of beet juice. These materials are strategically stationed across Cincinnati for efficient operations (Appendix A). Additional resources are contracted to replenish stockpiles throughout the winter season.

When temperatures fall below 20°F, liquid calcium chloride and/or beet juice is applied to every ton of salt (sodium chloride) to treat the pavement. This process of pre-wetting provides the moisture necessary to make the brine, which speeds up the melting process. Applying a pre-wetting material to salt minimizes scatter during application by as much as 40%, reducing the need for repeated applications.

Liquid Calcium Chloride is used in pre-wetting, anti-icing, and solid blend applications. The benefits of liquid calcium chloride provide the moisture needed to form liquid brine and initiate melting action. Once melting begins, the bond between ice and pavement can be broken allowing for mechanical removal.

Beet Juice, a byproduct of the sugar beet, is an organic compound that reduces the environmental effects associated with salt. Beet juice, in conjunction with salt, has many advantages; it is environmentally safe, has longer residual effects, and is effective at much colder temperatures (-20°F).

LEVEL OF SERVICE/PRIORITIES

Street prioritizations are developed using the Cincinnati Area Geographic Information System (CAGIS), a division of Enterprise Technology Solutions (ETS) mapping systems. All major arteries, feeders, alleys, etc. are included in the City's Snow and Ice Control Plan.

Streets are treated and plowed based on three categories of route priorities: (Appendix B)

- **Primary Routes:** Major thoroughfares and hospital routes.
- **Residential Routes:** Pathways off major thoroughfares accessible with larger trucks.
- **Pickup Routes:** Streets that can only be accessed with smaller trucks.

All routes are treated by priority beginning with primary.

Routes are divided into four regions: North, South, East, and West. Crews from these locations address the prioritized snow routes. Supervisors direct and coordinate crews to complete snow and ice removal according to the established priority routes. Close radio communication is maintained with all operators to keep abreast of progress on each route.

When conditions become too severe for traffic flow and parking must be restricted, the City Manager will declare a snow emergency. When a snow emergency is declared, parking is prohibited on Snow Emergency Routes (Appendix C). Vehicles parked are moved to an area designated by the Cincinnati Police Department. Car owners can retrieve their vehicles by calling 311.

GARBAGE COLLECTION

The Neighborhood Operations Division (NOD) of DPS will provide garbage collection in most weather conditions. In emergencies, such as heavy snow and ice, garbage collection may be temporarily suspended for the safety of employees. When collections are temporarily suspended, local media outlets will be notified to provide information to the public. DPS will also use social media and its website to keep the community updated.

The following summarizes the snow removal actions for specific weather events:

Pavement Temperature Range and Trend	LIGHT SNOWFALL Less than 2 inches per hour						Comments
	Pavement Surface at Time of Initial Operation	Maintenance Action	Recommended Snow Removal Equipment	Pre-Treat	Dry/Solid (#/mile)	Prewet Solid (#/mile)	
				23% Solution of Salt Brine 23% (gal/mile)			
Above 32°F Steady or rising	Dry, wet, slush, or light snow cover	Monitor Road and Weather Conditions for drops in temperature		20-40			Treat as needed. Treat icy spots @ 100#/mile or 20gal/mile
Above 32°F or below is imminent	Dry	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks & Plow	20-40		50 to 100	
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks & Plow		50 to 100	50 to 100	
25°F to 32°F In Range	Dry	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks and Plow	20-40		50 to 100	
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks and Plow		100 to 200	50 to 100	
Below 20°F to 25°F In Range	Dry	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid		20-40		100 to 200	Appropriate de-icing liquid may be used in temperatures below 25
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid			200 to 300	100 to 200	
Below 15°F to 20°F In Range	Dry	Monitor Conditions					Appropriate de-icing liquid may be used in temperatures below 25°. If sufficient moisture is present solid chemical can be applied
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Solid Materials	Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks and Plow		300 to 400	300 to 400	
Below 15°F Steady or falling	Dry	Monitor Conditions					Do not apply chemicals and maintain dry pavement during windy conditions
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Plow as needed Apply pre-wetted solid material	Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks and Plow			200 to 300	

Pavement Temperature Range and Trend	HEAVY SNOWFALL W/ PLOWING 2 inches or more per hour						Comments
	Pavement Surface at Time of Initial Operation	Maintenance Action	Recommended Snow Removal Equipment	Pre-Treat	Dry/Solid (#/mile)	Prewet Solid (#/mile)	
				23% Solution of Salt Brine 23% (gal/mile)			
Above 32°F Steady or rising	Dry, wet, slush, or light snow cover	Monitor Road and Weather Conditions for drops in temperature	Plow	20-40			Treat as needed. Treat icy spots @ 100#/mile or 20gal/mile
Above 32°F or below is imminent	Dry	Apply Liquid or prewetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks	20-40		50 to 100	Do not apply liquid to heavy or packed snow
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or prewetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader		200 to 300	100 to 200	Do not apply liquid to heavy or packed snow
25°F to 32°F In Range	Dry	Apply Liquid or prewetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks	20-40		100 to 200	Do not apply liquid to heavy or packed snow
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or prewetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader		300 to 400	300 to 400	Do not apply liquid to heavy or packed snow
Below 20°F to 25°F In Range	Dry	Apply Liquid or prewetted solid		20-40			
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or prewetted solid			Max 400	Max 400	Appropriate de-icing liquid may be used in temperatures below 25°
Below 15°F to 20°F In Range	Dry	Monitor Conditions					Do not apply chemicals and maintain dry pavement during windy conditions. If sufficient moisture is present solid chemical can be applied
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Solid Materials	Salt Spreader		Max 400	Max 400	
Below 15°F Steady or falling	Dry	Monitor Conditions					Do not apply chemicals and maintain dry pavement during windy conditions
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Plow as needed Apply prewetted solid chemical	Plow			Max 400	

Pavement Temperature Range and Trend	FREEZING RAIN						Comments
	Pavement Surface at Time of Initial Operation	Maintenance Action	Recommended Snow Removal Equipment	Pre-Treat	Dry/Solid (#/mile)	Prewet Solid (#/mile)	
				23% Solution of Salt Brine 23% (gal/mile)			
Above 32°F Steady or rising	Dry, wet, slush, or light snow cover	Monitor Road and Weather Conditions, especially bridges and elevated roads	Plow	20-40			Treat as needed. Treat icy spots @ 100#/mile or 20 gal/mile
Above 32°F or below is imminent	Dry	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks	20-40			
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks		300 to 400	200 to 300	Heavy rain changing to freezing rain will wash chemicals from roads, load and pre-position trucks on routes to begin treatment as soon as practical
25°F to 32°F In Range	Dry	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks	20-40			
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks		300 to 400	300 to 400	
Below 20°F to 25°F In Range	Dry	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid	Anti-Icing System or Salt Spreader and Pre-wetting Tanks	20-40			
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Liquid or pre-wetted solid			Max 400	Max 400	Appropriate de-icing liquid may be used in temperatures below 25°
Below 15°F to 20°F In Range	Dry	Monitor Conditions					Do not apply chemicals and maintain dry pavement during windy conditions
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Apply Solid Materials	Salt Spreader		Max 400	Max 400	Appropriate de-icing chemicals may be used in temperatures below 25.
Below 15°F Steady or falling	Dry	Monitor Conditions					Do not apply chemicals and maintain dry pavement during windy conditions
	Wet, slush, or light snow cover	Plow as needed	Plow		Max 400	Max 400	As snow continues to fall plow accumulation

OPERATIONS ROTATION SCHEDULE 2024/2025

During the winter months, one section/yard will provide slippery street operational coverage. The Supervisor will monitor weather conditions and respond to requests for service that cannot be handled by our Emergency Service Representatives. This includes calling in enough personnel to handle requests for service and activating other division personnel.

The highlighted lines below indicate a switch in rotation of yards; this was done to come closer to equalizing the number of holidays (denoted by *) covered by each yard.

Week Start		Week End	HDY	Yard
Monday, October 28, 2024	Thru	Sunday, November 3, 2024		East - Dunbar
Monday, November 4, 2024	Thru	Sunday, November 10, 2024		North - TA
Monday, November 11, 2024	Thru	Sunday, November 17, 2024	*	South - VV
Monday, November 18, 2024	Thru	Sunday, November 24, 2024		West - Crookshank
Monday, November 25, 2024	Thru	Sunday, December 1, 2024	**	East - Dunbar
Monday, December 2, 2024	Thru	Sunday, December 8, 2024		North - TA
Monday, December 9, 2023	Thru	Sunday, December 15, 2024		South - VV
Monday, December 16, 2024	Thru	Sunday, December 22, 2024		East - Dunbar
Monday, December 23, 2024	Thru	Sunday, December 29, 2024	*	West - Crookshank
Monday, December 30, 2024	Thru	Sunday, January 5, 2025	*	North - TA
Monday, January 6, 2025	Thru	Sunday, January 12, 2025		South - VV
Monday, January 13, 2025	Thru	Sunday, January 19, 2025		West - Crookshank
Monday, January 20, 2025	Thru	Sunday, January 26, 2025	*	South - VV
Monday, January 27, 2025	Thru	Sunday, February 2, 2025		North - TA
Monday, February 3, 2025	Thru	Sunday, February 9, 2025		East - Dunbar
Monday, February 10, 2025	Thru	Sunday, February 16, 2025		West - Crookshank
Monday, February 17, 2025	Thru	Sunday, February 23, 2025	*	North - TA
Monday, February 24, 2025	Thru	Sunday, March 2, 2025		South - VV
Monday, March 3, 2025	Thru	Sunday, March 9, 2025		West - Crookshank
Monday, March 10, 2025	Thru	Sunday, March 16, 2025		East - Dunbar
Monday, March 17, 2025	Thru	Sunday, March 23, 2025		South - VV
Monday, March 24, 2025	Thru	Sunday, March 30, 2025		West - Crookshank

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE OPERATING PROCEDURE

A critical factor to an effective and efficient snow and ice removal program is equipment maintenance and availability. Research has shown that a comprehensive equipment maintenance management program can yield positive results.

Due to the severe nature of the environment for snow and ice control, the winter operations fleet requires the highest level of equipment maintenance. To keep equipment in top condition, a regular maintenance routine is followed all winter.

Cleaning all equipment with truck wash and neutralizer is critical to control maintenance costs and reduce downtime. This includes pressure washing truck surfaces, undercarriage, plows, and material spreaders. When the operator finishes cleaning the equipment it is inspected to identify and report repairs that need to be made before the next event.

Pre-trip Checklist

- A pre-trip checklist is required for commercial driver's license (CDL) compliance. Following the checklist will help prevent equipment failures. In addition to the pre-trip inspection, the following list should be used for the pre-trip inspection as well as the inspection performed when the event is over and the unit has been cleaned:
 - **Spreaders:** Inspect pumps, hoses, controls, and fittings. Check spinners, augers, and auxiliary engines.
 - **Hydraulic spreader controls:** The two major components are the pump and the controls, whether manual or automatic. Operators need to be familiar with spreader controls. Understand how the auger, or conveyor, and the spinner react at various settings.
 - **Snow plow blades:** Inspect blades thoroughly after each use. If blade wear is excessive it may damage the moldboard. Since snow plow blades do not wear evenly, they need to be replaced when they are worn at any point. Operators should check blade wear throughout the storm.

WINTER OPS TRUCK ASSIGNMENTS 2024/2025

SOUTH (26)

Pick Up (4)

00881 PU 2020
70810 PU 2017
00885 PU (NOD) 2020
90451 PU (NOD) 2019

Cont. Dump (3)

70918 C 2017
10904 C 2011

Single Axle (11)

20954 S D/S 2012
30950 D/S 2013
50954 S D/S 2015
60961 S D/S 2016
70951 S D/S 2017
70950 S D/S 2017
70958 S 2007*
80962 D/S 2018
90968 D/S 2019
90970 D/S 2019
90973 D/S 2019

*sand truck

Tandem (4)

50992 T D/S 2015
70981 T D/S 2007
80994 T D/S 2018
80991 T D/S 2018

Brine (4)

50993 BT 2005
50996 BT 2005
80954 BS 1999
80950 BS 1999

Loader

75810 L 2016
95810 L 1999

MSD Single Axle

50955 S 2015
50956 S 2015
50957 S 2015
50959 S 2015

NORTH (22)

Pick Up (4)

00883 PU 2020
00884 PU (NOD) 2020
20884 PU (NOD) 2021
70814 PU (NOD) 2017

Cont. Dump (1)

70917 C 2017

Single Axle (10)

20956 S D/S 2012
30951 D/S 2013
50951 D/S 2015
60963 S 2016
70952 S 2017
70968 S D/S 2007
70970 S D/S 2007
80961 D/S 2018
90969 D/S 2019
90972 D/S 2019

Tandem (3)

00992 T D/S 2010
20991 T D/S 2022
70992 T D/S 2017

Brine (4)

40992 BT 2004
60950 BS 2006
60951 BS 2006
80951 BS 1999

Loader

95811 L 2009

NOD Sweep Tandem

10991 T 2021
00990 T 2020
00991 T 2020
80995 T NOD 2018

EAST (24)

Pick Up (4)

70812 PU (NOD) 2017
90452 PU 2019
90453 PU 2019
90459 PU 2019

Cont. Dump (3)

10903 C 2011
70913 C 2017
70914 C 2017

Single Axle (10)

20957 S D/S 2012
50952 S D/S 2015
60962 S D/S 2016
70959 S 2007
70957 S 2007
70971 S D/S 2017
80959 D/S 2018
80960 D/S 2018
90967 D/S 2019
70956 S 2007

Tandem (3)

00993 T D/S 2010
70990 T D/S 2017
70991 T D/S 2017

Brine (4)

50958 BS 2005
60953 BS 2006
80953 BS 1999
70982 BT 2007

Loader

15813 L 2011
85812 L 1998

WW Single Axle

70973 S 2017
70974 S 2017

WEST (23)

Pick Up (4)

00882 PU 2020
20886 PU 2020
70816 PU (NOD) 2017
90450 PU 2019

Cont. Dump (3)

00905 C 2010
70915 C 2017
70916 C 2017

Single Axle (10)

20955 S D/S 2012
50953 S D/S 2015
60964 S D/S 2016
70953 S D/S 2017
70954 S D/S 2017
70960 S 2007
70961 S 2007
10958 S D/S 2021
70972 D/S 2017
90971 D/S 2019

Tandem (3)

00994 T D/S 2010
50990 T D/S 2015
20990 T D/S 2022

Brine (3)

40993 BT 2004
60952 BS 2006
80955 BS 1999

Loader

85811 L 2018

SIDEWALKS AND SNOW

Ohio Revised Code 723.011

This code authorizes the City of Cincinnati to require property owners to remove snow and ice from abutting or adjoining sidewalks in a timely manner.

What does this mean?

Property owners are responsible for keeping their property safe. If someone falls because you didn't shovel and salt your walkway, you could be liable for their injuries.

Am I liable if I shovel my sidewalk and it freezes again, then someone falls?

The Ohio Supreme Court has affirmed residents can comply with Municipal Code's requirement to shovel their sidewalks without assuming liability to others who may slip and fall. Liability only arises if a resident permits or creates a dangerous accumulation of snow that results in personal injury.



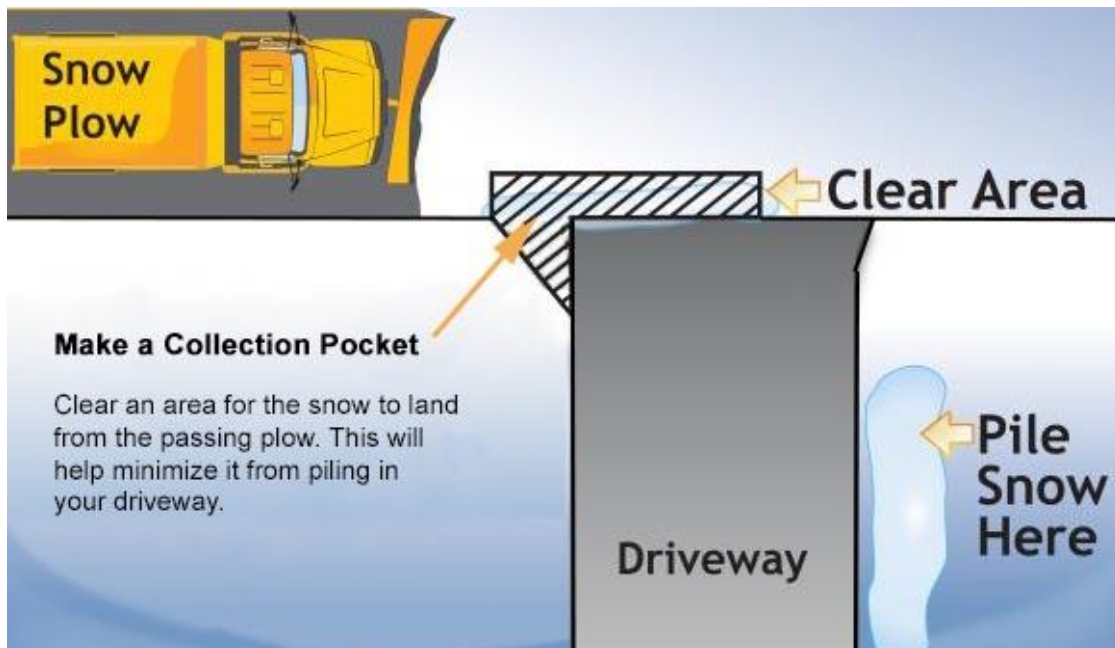
- **Section 723-57 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code:** Requires property owners to remove snow.
- **Section 723-59 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code:** Requires property owners to remove ice.
- **ORC 723.011 (Ohio Revised Code):** The penalty for violating these sections is a fine of \$25.

Be a Good Neighbor

Help fellow residents and visitors, especially the elderly and those with disabilities, navigate through winter safely by keeping sidewalks clear.

WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO TO HELP

- **Shovel Snow onto Grassy Areas:** When clearing driveways and sidewalks, shovel snow onto grassy areas of your property.
- **Avoid Shoveling Snow onto Roadways:** This helps prevent re-icing of treated streets.
- **Apply De-Icing Materials:** Use salt, sand, and/or cat litter on icy steps and paths.
- **Clear Snow Around Fire Hydrants:** Assist with keeping fire hydrants accessible.
- **Shovel Around Storm Drains:** This minimizes the risk of black ice as snow melts.
- **Adopt a Storm Drain:** Help keep the City's approximately 30,000 storm drains clear.
- **Use Off-Street Parking:** During snow events, this allows crews to work safely and efficiently.
- **Observe Parking Restrictions:** Be aware of snow parking restrictions and emergency declarations.
- **Drive with Extra Care:** Leave additional distance between your vehicle and the one ahead.
- **Maintain Safe Distance from City Vehicles:** Keep at least 100 feet behind City vehicles.
- **Avoid Passing Snow Trucks:** For safety, do not pass snow trucks.



And, ultimately, exercise patience!
Understand it takes time for the City to clear its 3,112 miles of road following a snow event.

WINTER SAFETY TIPS


- **Park Off-Street:** Reduce risk and assist snow removal efforts by parking off-street where possible.
- **Allow Extra Driving Time:** Use extra caution and allow more time for your journey.
- **Reduce Speed:** Leave plenty of room to stop, allowing at least three times more space than usual between your vehicle and the one in front.
- **Brake Gently:** Avoid skidding by braking gently. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- **Increase Visibility:** Turn on headlights and keep them, as well as your windshield, clean.
- **Use Low Gears:** Maintain traction, especially on hills, by using low gears.
- **Exercise Caution on Bridges and Overpasses:** These areas can be icy even if temperatures are above freezing.
- **Improve Traction:** Pour sand, cat litter, gravel, or salt in the path of your wheels to help improve traction.

WINTER DRIVING WHILE ON THE ROAD

Change the way you drive.
Drive slower than normal and leave more room between you and surrounding vehicles when roads are wet, snowy or icy. **DO NOT** use cruise control, brake quickly or take sharp turns.

Don't crowd the plow.
The road behind an active plow is safer to drive on. Give them plenty of room to work and only pass when it is safe to do so.

Stay alert.
Make sure you keep your gas tank over half full and keep a close eye on road conditions, which can change rapidly. On road trips, take breaks often so you can stay focused on the road.



WINTER BIKING TIPS

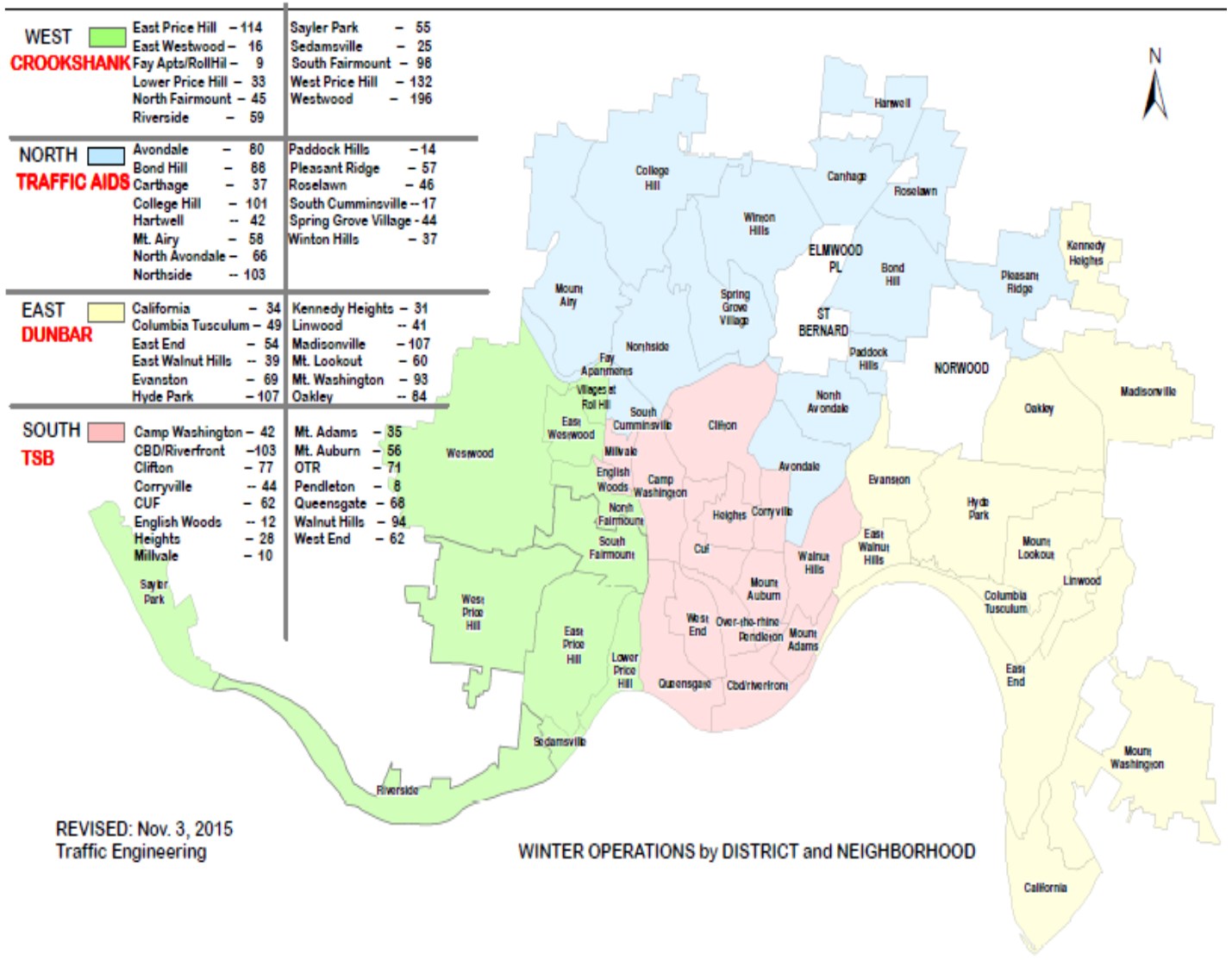
Winter conditions present unique challenges for bicycle commuters. Here are some tips to help you navigate safely during winter weather events:

- **Choose Your Route Wisely:** Opt for main thoroughfares, which typically have less snow and ice. Be mindful that snow-covered roads can be narrower.
- **Watch for Hazards:** Be cautious of potholes, puddles, and snow banks.
- **Install Appropriate Tires:** Use knobby or studded tires for better traction.
- **Regain Control Safely:** If you start to lose control, steer your bike toward a snow bank.
- **Pedal in Low Gear:** This helps maintain control, even if your pedal is frozen in low gear.
- **Avoid Sudden Maneuvers:** Wet, slushy roads reduce stopping power and increase braking distances.
- **Dress in Layers:** Wear well-layered clothing to regulate your body temperature and stay dry.
- **Protect Your Eyes:** Use blade-style glasses or goggles to prevent your eyes from watering and to keep road grit out.
- **Wear Warm Gloves:** Choose windproof gloves to keep your hands warm.
- **Note on Bike Lanes:** The City of Cincinnati does not plow bike lanes.



APPENDIX A: SNOW REGIONS

REGION	Primary Routes	Residential Routes	Priority 3 Routes	Lane Miles
EAST	23	25	14	768
NORTH	16	32	10	790
SOUTH	17	23	15	772
WEST	11	17	15	782
TOTAL	67	97	54	3112



APPENDIX B: PARKING SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES

Routes are designated by signs stating "**No Parking during Snow Emergency.**"

Police District 1

- Reading Road: Central Parkway to Paddock Road
- Vine Street: Mitchell Avenue to Third Street
- Gilbert Avenue: Broadway to McMillan Street

Police District 2

- Eastern Avenue: Delta Avenue to Second Street
- Eastern Avenue: Delta Avenue to Columbia Parkway
- Madison Road: Woodburn Avenue to Plainville
- Marburg Avenue: Ridge Road to Erie Avenue
- Whetsel Avenue: Bramble Avenue to North Corporation Line
- Observatory Avenue: Edwards Avenue to Delta Avenue

Police District 3

- Glenway Avenue: West Corporation Line to West Eighth Street
- Queen City Avenue: Werk Road to Beekman Street
- Harrisonon Avenue: West Corporation Line to State Avenue
- Warsaw Avenue: Glenway Avenue to State Avenue
- River Road: West Corporation Line to Evans Street
- Elberon Avenue: West Eighth Street to State Avenue
- Montana Avenue: West Fork Road to Glenmore Avenue
- Westwood Northern Boulevard: Hopple Street to Boudinot Avenue
- Boudinot Avenue: Glenway Avenue to Westwood Northern Boulevard

Police District 4

- Ridge Road: Amberly Village Corp. Line to Marburg Avenue
- Montgomery Road: Norwood Corporation Line to Silverton Corporation Line
- Woodburn Avenue: McMillan Street to Dana Avenue
- William Howard Taft Road: Columbia Parkway to Vine Street
- McMillan Street: Central Parkway to Hackberry Street
- Paddock Road: Reading Road to Vine Street
- Gilbert Avenue: Woodburn Avenue to McMillan Street
- Reading Road: Paddock Road to Sunnybrook Drive
- Dana Avenue: Reading Road to Duck Creek Road
- Burnet Avenue: Forest Avenue to Reading Road

Police District 5

- Martin Luther King Drive: Central Parkway to Woodburn Avenue
- Ludlow Avenue: Spring Grove Avenue to Jefferson Avenue
- Jefferson Avenue: Nixon to Ludlow
- Hamilton Avenue: Spring Grove Avenue to Hollywood Avenue
- Colerain Avenue: Spring Grove Avenue to Kipling Road
- Burnet Avenue: Forest Avenue to Reading Road
- Jefferson Avenue: McMillan Street to Martin Luther King Drive
- Calhoun Street: Vine Street to Clifton Avenue
- North Bend Road: Vogel Road to Daly Road

APPENDIX C: DEFINITIONS

1. **Snow Season** – December 1 – March 31
2. **Dry Snow** – Occurs when the troposphere temperature (the lowest portion of the Earth's atmosphere) and the surface temperature fall below freezing causing snow to be less dense than average and not sticky.
3. **Wet Snow** – Occurs when surface temperatures are just above freezing, and goes through repeated melt-freeze cycles, forming a crust on the surface allowing it to stick together.
4. **Compacted Snow** – Snow that has been compressed into a solid mass that resists further compression and will hold together or break into lumps if picked up.
5. **Slush** – Mixture of small ice crystals and liquid water. Generally forming when snow and/or ice melt.
6. **Chemicals** – Used in conjunction with a solid to help depress the freezing point of water, turning ice or snow into liquid or slush.
7. **De-icing** – A reactive operation. Removal of existing snow, ice, or frost from the roadway or other surface. Spreading material after snow begins.
8. **Anti-icing** – A proactive operation. Treatment with an ice melting chemical before or during the beginning of a storm to prevent or delay the formation of ice or the adhesion of ice and snow to the surface.
9. **Salt** – A mineral substance composed primarily of sodium chloride. A primary tool for snow and ice control.
10. **Brine (i.e. wetted salt)** – A solution of salt in water. Can be used to deice or reduce freezing temperatures on roads.
11. **Beet Juice** – Anti-icing fluid is a natural, agricultural product from the juice remaining after sugar beet extraction. Used in conjunction with rock salt.
12. **Calcium Chloride** – Used as an anti-icing, pre-wetting solution to help improve the performance of rock salt.
13. **Plowing** – During and after precipitation, plows are utilized to remove higher accumulations of snow before using deicing products. Plowing normally leaves ridges of snow along road edges in front of sidewalks, driveways, and parking lanes.
14. **Passable** – Moderately good quality, but less than excellent, capable of being passed, traversed, or crossed.
15. **Pre-wetted Salt** – Salt that has been treated with liquid, before being spread.
16. **Level 1 Snow Alert** - Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow.
17. **Level 2 Snow Advisory** – Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be on the roadways. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work.

- 18. Level 3 Snow Emergency** – All Municipal, Township, County, and State roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one should drive during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel. Those traveling on the roadways may subject themselves to arrest.
- 19. City of Cincinnati Parking Snow Emergency** – The City may issue a parking snow emergency during severe snowstorms. The declaration of a snow emergency initiates parking restrictions on designated routes. Cars, trucks, and other motorized vehicles not moved are subject to ticketing and towing. This action assists with the full treatment of City streets in order to make roads passable as soon as practical.

APPENDIX E – PRIVATE STREETS

APPENDIX PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

APPENDIX F – ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF SNOW ROUTES

APPENDIX PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

APPENDIX G – PRIORITY SNOW ROUTES PER REGION

APPENDIX PROVIDED UPON REQUEST