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 safe and passable. 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 usually declared after snowfalls of 3” or more or an accumulation of 3” over several days.

Public Works typically announces the Snow Emergency no later than 3:00 p.m. allowing notification to media partners.

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

It means that all residential streets will be plowed and all vehicles should be off the Snow Emergency routes. The snow emergency begins at 9:00 pm when taggers begin looking for vehicles that have not been removed. City crews need to plow curb to curb. Tow trucks remove vehicles that have not been moved, allowing Public Works crews to plow the streets.

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 is 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: 651-266-9800.

**Snow Emergency Information:**

- The city’s snow plow information is available in different languages on the website: www.stpaul.gov/snowlanguages
- Para obtener información en español sobre la emergencia por nieve, visite www.stpaul.gov/snowlanguages
- Si aad Luqadda Soomaaliga ugu heshid macluumaadka ku saabsan degdegga barafka, booqo bogga internetka www.stpaul.gov/snowlanguages
- Xav paub cov xov xwm kub ceev txog daus tes ua Lus Hmoob, thov txuas mus xyuas www.stpaul.gov/snowlanguages
How to stay informed...

By Phone 24-hours a Day:
Call (651) 266-PLOW (651-266-7569) the city’s Snow Emergency Hotline for a current recorded message; or call 651-266-9700 Street & Bridge Maintenance Division’s 24-hour phone line.

By Email and Text Message Subscription:
Sign up for SnowAlert and receive an email and/or text message. www.stpaul.gov/snowalert

Check the Web: www.stpaul.gov
Snow plowing information is available on the city’s home page from November through March. Click the tile for detailed information during a snow emergency.

Check the Public Works snow plowing information webpage: www.stpaul.gov/snow

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/stpaulpublicw

Fan us on Facebook: City of Saint Paul

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.

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

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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.

Day Plowing

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.