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# Snow Removal

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The Department will provide snow and ice control services at a level of service consistent with local jurisdictional needs including, but not limited to, emergency access, customer input, commuter and educational systems, economic movement of goods, average daily traffic, industrial access, and other traffic data.

Highway needs for snow and ice control overlap highway systems and, as a result, are separated and identified by functional classifications of the highway rather than by roadway systems. Highways and roads are classified into categories of priority routes to ensure the optimal and safe movement of goods and traffic along Virginia's highways during snow and icy conditions.

For example, priority 1 highways include all interstate routes, most primary routes, and a few very high-service secondary routes. These routes should be kept free of ice and snow so that traffic can proceed in safety without severe delays, except during periods of heavy falling or drifting snow and ice storms. Generally, this is accomplished within 24 hours after the storm ends.

All routes receive progressive and continuous effort to meet the snow removal goals. Routes not designated as priority 1 highways will receive attention as soon as practical and will have appropriate chemical treatment and plowing generally no later than 48 hours after the end of the storm. Dependent upon the forecast, VDOT may apply chemical deicing abrasive to bridges and select routes at the beginning of a storm or possibly prior to the onset of precipitation. On residential streets, sanding is performed as needed and plowing is performed when feasible. Each year the local residency revises snow removal plans for the coming snow season based on local needs and available resources. Contractor supplied hired equipment is used to complement state forces.

VDOT does not remove snow from private or commercial roads or entrances. Upon written request VDOT will assist the cleaning of entrances for fire departments, emergency squads, and other emergency providers as operations allow.

VDOT provides snow removal service in most incorporated towns of less than 3,500 population, and on primary roads in some towns with populations over 3,500 depending on which section of the *Code of Virginia* by which the town is operating.

VDOT does not remove snow or ice on sidewalks.

VDOT does not remove snow off railroad grade crossings. The railroad has the responsibility to remove snow from the grade crossings. If the railroad company does not remove the snow then the Residency Administrator will contact the railroad company official regarding removal.

Visit the VDOT web site at <http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/eoc-main.asp>