

# SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS

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## At what point is a snow removal operation initiated?

When at least 5 cm of snow has accumulated on the ground. Sidewalks, walking paths and bike paths are cleared when there is 3 cm or more of snow on the ground.

## Do you know the four steps of a successful snow removal?

1. Spreading : The spreading of abrasives (rock), de-icing agents (salt), or a combination of the two begins as soon as snow accumulates on the road. The order of priority for spreading operations is as follows: arterial roads and boulevards (N1) and collector roads (N2).
2. Clearing : Plows push snow to the side of the road so that drivers may circulate freely and safely. Clearing snow off the roads begins when there is 5 cm accumulated on the ground. This step continues until the precipitation ends.
3. Signage : In preparation for snow collection, which is a major operation, temporary signs are placed at the side of the road indicating that parking is prohibited from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m.



4. Collection : In the final step, snow is collected and transported to a snow disposal site.

[Click here to get more information.](#)

## How many kilometres are covered during one stage of a snow removal operation?

Our snow removal operations are carried out over approximately 350 km of streets, 160 km of sidewalks and 65 km of bike paths and walking paths.

## How much time does each stage of snow removal take?

The estimated time always depends on the amount of precipitation. Spreading and blowing take approximately 5 hours each. The average duration of clearing is about 28 hours for a snowfall of less than 20 centimetres (i.e., two nights of 14 hours).

## What are the main factors that may slow down snow removal operations?

- The number of cars parked in the streets
- The amount of snow
- Mechanical failures
- The duration of the snow removal operation itself. If snow removal lasts longer than 12 hours, a rest period is required for members of the team in order to ensure the safety of road users and comply with labour standards.

### Why do snow removal teams work even when it's not snowing?

Some teams work to transport snow and to widen the streets in preparation for future snowfalls.

### Why are there snow removal trucks driving on the roads even when it's not snowing?

Various factors may require vehicle operators to drive on the roads even when it's not snowing. For example, rain, wind and extreme cold may require spreading of abrasives and de-icing agents.

### Where do you dispose of snow collected during snow removal operations?

The collected snow is transported to a snow disposal site approved for use by the Ministère de l'Environnement, du Développement Durable, de la Faune et des Parcs. Snow is never deposited near waterways.

### Who is responsible for keeping fire hydrants clear?

The city and its contractors are responsible for keeping fire hydrants clear.

### Is the city allowed to blow snow onto private properties?

Yes. The city may blow snow onto private, commercial, industrial or institutional properties in order to reduce the ecological footprint associated with snow removal operations and transportation of snow to the snow disposal site.

### Why does the snowplow leave snow at the end of my driveway?

Snow cleared from the road surface must be pushed to the side of traffic lanes so that cars may circulate. There is no other practical way to avoid snowbanks (also known as windrows) at the edge of traffic lanes.

## ROAD NETWORK

### Which streets are given priority?

The snow removal plan ensures that operations are performed in a uniform manner across the Ville de Brossard. The road network is divided into three categories:

Level 1 — Boulevards and major arteries

Level 2 — Collector streets

Level 3 — Eco-friendly winter streets

Please note that emergency lanes always take priority.

### Déneigement mode opératoire

Abrasif (pierre) et fondant (sel)

**N1** Artères principales et boulevards  
21 % du réseau (56 km)  
Épandage systématique de fondant et/ou d'abrasif

**N2** Rues collectrices (ex : Milan)  
26 % du réseau (82 km)  
Épandage systématique de fondant et/ou d'abrasif  
Durée approximative : 3 h

**N3** Rues locales éco-hivernales  
53 % du réseau (153 km)  
Épandage systématique d'abrasif uniquement  
Durée approximative : 5 h

### N3 Rues locales éco-hivernales

Principaux facteurs pour déclencher un épandage exceptionnel de fondant

- 1- Précipitations solides  
Accumulation de neige
- 2- Précipitations liquides  
Accumulation rapide d'eau
- 3- Adoucissement des conditions climatiques  
Accumulation d'eau
- 4- Baisse drastique de la température  
Plus de 5000 puits à surveiller dont 4800 à dégager (niveau N3)

**Dégradation de la chaussée**  
Impossibilité de dégager rapidement l'ensemble des puits, et ce, avant que la température passe sous le point de congélation.

**Déclenchement d'un épandage exceptionnel de fondant**

**Conditions de succès :**  
La température doit se maintenir au-dessus de la barre des -10 °C.  
Minimum de 4 jours (consécutifs ou non) afin de traiter 100 % des rues classées N3.

**What is an eco-friendly winter street?**

This is a level-3 residential street on which no de-icing salts or agents are used in order to reduce the ecological footprint of snow removal operations.

**Why is snow removed from eco-friendly winter streets last?**

Major arteries, boulevards and collector streets are cleared first so that emergency vehicles may use them. Eco-friendly winter streets are cleared after that.

**Is the city responsible for removing snow from all streets throughout the Ville de Brossard?**

No. The Ville de Brossard is not responsible for snow removal on certain major arteries, boulevards and highway access roads.

The following sections fall under provincial jurisdiction, with snow removal being supervised by the Ministère des Transports du Québec:

- Boulevard Taschereau
- Access roads for Highway 10 and 30
- Boulevard Marie-Victorin (beneath the deck of the Champlain Bridge).

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**SPREADING OF DE-ICING AGENTS****Why is there no spreading of de-icing agents on my street?**

In order to reduce their environmental impact, the use of de-icing agents and abrasives is limited in some parts of the municipality. Instead, the use of scraping and spreading of salt at intersections and curves when the road surface is slippery is preferred.

**Why is the use of de-icing agents limited?**

Limiting the use of de-icing agents makes it possible to minimize their negative impact on the environment and infrastructure.

**Are there situations where the city will spread de-icing agents on eco-friendly winter streets?**

De-icing agents and abrasives may be spread on an exceptional basis in the case of freezing rain or when extreme weather conditions (e.g., accumulation of snow followed by rain and a sudden drop in temperature) make it impossible to rapidly clear all sumps before the temperature drops below the freezing point again.

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**PARKING****Can I park on the street during winter?**

During the daytime, you are allowed to park in the street, unless it is prohibited by the permanent signage.

However, it is prohibited to park a vehicle on the street from November 15 to April 15, between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m., when a snow clearing or removal operation is under way.

**Are there streets where it is prohibited to park at all times during the winter?**

Yes. During the period from November 15, 2020, to April 15, 2021, it is prohibited to park on eleven streets in the municipality:

1. Avenue Albanie
2. Rue Anthony
3. Avenue Bernard
4. Place Bourassa
5. Rue Corneille
6. Rue Lautrec

7. Place Neptune
8. Rue Nicolet
9. Place Perez
10. Rue Perrier
11. Place Piedmont

Please note that it is possible to park your vehicle there for a maximum of 72 hours.

**Are there parking spaces that may be accessed during the winter?**

Yes. You may consult the list of temporary parking spaces to see where spots are available to residents from November 15 to April 15.

**If there are temporary no-parking signs next to the street but the permanent signage allows parking, do I have the right to park there?**

No. The temporary signage placed next to the street always takes priority. It is placed ahead of the snow removal stage and indicates that parking is prohibited from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.

**Can I park in the street at night if my street has been cleared?**

No. You must wait until the prohibition notice has been lifted by the city, since it is possible that the team will need to carry out additional operations in the street to ensure that snow removal has been completed properly.

## **BE A TEAM PLAYER**

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***When snow removal is in progress, be a team leader***

**To ensure everyone's safety on public roads throughout Brossard, it's important to remember the following points:**

- Make sure you respect the regulations by installing your car shelter at least 2 m from the road surface;
- You must prune your trees, shrubs and hedges that encroach on public ways (sidewalks and roadways) or that obscure signs;
- Remove the accumulated snow from your driveway without shoveling snow onto the street;
- Protect your fences, shrubs, etc. well in anticipation of snow that may be blown onto your property during snow removal operations.
- Do not shovel snow onto the street, along the edge of the street or on the sidewalk during residential snow removal;
- Do not place snow near a fire hydrant, because this constitutes a danger for fire safety;
- Do not place garbage or recycling bins in the street or on the sidewalk;

**How to find out when a snow removal operation is under way?**

There are various communication methods available to find out when a snow removal operation is under way:

- text message alerts | [Registrar NOW : brossard.ca/textos](https://brossard.ca/textos)
- [brossard.ca](https://brossard.ca) home page
- [Ville de Brossard Facebook page](#)
- bciti notifications
- electronic screens located around the Ville de Brossard
- Info-Neige line | 450-923-6339.
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**Why is placing snow in the street prohibited?**

Placing snow on a public road or curbside is prohibited in order to prevent interfering with snow removal operations and to facilitate residents' use of the road network.

**What should I do if I find damage to my property (lawn, hedge, fence, etc.) due to snow removal?**

You should submit a claim to the city before May 15 each year by contacting Services Brossard. Repairs will be carried out during the summer, based on the type of damage.

**How can I submit a request if snow removal operations do not meet my expectations?**

We encourage you to contact Services Brossard at 450-923-631 or [services@brossard.ca](mailto:services@brossard.ca). Our agents will answer your questions or forward your request to the Direction des Travaux Publics.