

## COUNTY OF ST. PAUL

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*Our Mission - To create desirable rural experiences*

## Snow Clearing Procedures

County of St. Paul maintains all Public Roads and Right of Ways within the borders of the County. Public Works does not maintain the Provincial Highways.

The County of St. Paul has a duty to clear all main access Roads as depicted as Priority 1, followed by the roads depicted as Priority 2. The remaining roadways, private driveways, and farmyards are addressed as Priority 3, unless an emergency medical agreement is on file.

### Priority

**Paved and Oiled roads** are sanded and plowed in the following order after a snow event:

- Priority 1: Main service roads and/or roads that have the highest traffic volumes.
- Priority 2: Roads with medium traffic volumes that connect to a main service road or serve subdivisions, hamlets, and local residential areas.

**Gravel roads** are plowed in the following order after a snow event:

- Priority 1: Main service roads and/or roads that have the highest traffic volumes.
- Priority 2: Roads with medium traffic volumes that connect to a main service road or serve subdivisions, hamlets, and local residential areas.
- Priority 3: Roads that are not bus routes and have limited users on them i.e., dead end road allowances.

**Snow Flags** – Driveways/Farmyards

- Priority 3: Private driveways and farmyards.

**The County's Snow Clearing Policy** is to complete snow and ice control on Priority 1 roads followed by Priority 2 and Priority 3 roadways within 5 Days (60 hours) at the end of a snowfall event. The private driveways and farmyards will extend outside of the 5 days during major snow events.

The goal is an average. It may take more time to clear roads if:

- The snowfall is continuous or prolonged drifting is occurring, requiring us to start over on any roads.
- Snow falls at night or during peak traffic times, when equipment must travel more slowly for safety.
- Parked or abandoned vehicles are blocking roads.
- The snowfall is unusually heavy.
- Freezing rain is encountered at a heavy rate.

### Snow Ridges

Like most municipalities, the County does not clear the snow ridges (windrows) left at the roadside and ends of driveways after County or Provincial Equipment has cleared a road. A landowner is responsible for this and can purchase a Snow Flag if they want County Equipment to address this. Currently, snow is only hauled away when a road safety or drainage issue exists.



### Medical Emergency Access Routes

Residents who require access to emergency medical assistance during the winter can apply to have snow cleared from their private driveway while plows are in their area.

To qualify for this program, residents must submit:

- a letter from their physician stating the reasons for requiring medical emergency access; and
- a signed indemnity agreement (available soon).

The physician's letter must be provided to the County on an annual basis in order to maintain active status. For liability reasons, private driveways cannot be plowed until these forms have been received.

Once the documentation is ready, contact the County by telephone or email for submission instructions.

For more information, please refer to: Policy PW-13 Snow Clearance Policy.