



City of Martensville Snow and Ice Control Program Information

The City of Martensville Infrastructure & Planning Department will be operating the Snow and Ice Control Program this winter season. The purpose of the program is to:

- Facilitate the handling of emergencies by Police, Fire, and Ambulance services during the winter.
- Reduce the hazards of icy conditions to motorists and pedestrians.
- Minimize the economic losses to the community and industry resulting from unsatisfactory winter driving conditions.

This informational notice gives an overview of the program and how it will function this season.

Snow Plowing and Clearing

Snow plowing is the process of clearing snow following a snow event. Snow plowing entails pushing the snow off of a street into linear snow banks called windrows along the tree/lawn areas, boulevards, and driveways. Our snow plow graders are equipped with a snow-gate blade. This device is sized to match most of our typical to large snow events and is able to contain the snow that normally comes off the end of the plow blade and drag it across the driveway where it is deposited again in the form of a pile within the windrow adjacent to the drive, but minimizing the pile across the driveway.

Our plow operators will make every effort to lower the snow-gate blade at each driveway. In most cases, there will be little to no windrow across the driveway. If there is a large amount of snow in the street, or driveways have been constructed particularly wide or close together a windrow may still result. These ridges do not generally prevent access, and are the homeowner's responsibility to remove. The plow operator may not identify every driveway and may leave a full windrow or ridge across the driveway. If your driveway is entirely missed, please call the City at (306) 931-2166 and leave your name, contact information, and location. Staff will inspect locations, and dispatch appropriate equipment when it is available.

Snow plowing and hauling will be undertaken as required, and snow removal service will be provided within the allocated budget. It should also be noted that snow removal may be postponed until snow clearing activities have concluded. These decisions are very dependent on the weather, and existing roadway conditions, and as such will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

The City plows snow from the arterial commercial roadside sidewalks; however, elsewhere, residents and property owners are required to clear the snow from their own sidewalks.

The snow and ice program priority map is available for download on the City of Martensville website (www.martensville.ca). The target for Priority 1 streets is having plowing and hauling completed within 18 hours of the end of a snow event. The target for Priority 2 streets is to have plowing completed within 36 hours of the end of a snow event and hauling completed as soon after plowing as is practical. Priority 2 streets may have stockpiled snow for several days depending on the amount of snow and frequency of snow events. In general, the program will adhere to this priority ranking, however there may be special circumstances which deviate from this plan.



General Procedures

Sanding

Intersections will be sanded as required. The City of Martensville uses a mixture of salt and sand in order to provide traction throughout the City. Adding a small amount of salt to the sand increases the performance of the mixture by:

- Serving to keep the sand stockpile workable through the winter months so that the stockpile does not freeze into solid blocks.
- Keeping the sand fluid and workable enough to be handled in the conveying and spreading equipment.
- Under certain weather conditions allows the sand to stick to the icy road surface, and avoids being blown off of the pavement by wind and vehicles.

The priority of sand application generally follows the snow removal plan, but sanding operations will focus on intersection areas first. The City of Martensville Infrastructure & Planning Department will monitor routes to determine the locations that require sanding and when.

Moderate Snowfalls (less than 15cm)

Following a moderate snowfall (less than 15cm) the following snow clearing procedures will take place:

- Arterial and collector streets (Priority 1 and Priority 2 streets) will be plowed and snow will be moved to the side and stockpiled in windrows in the parking lane.
- Snow will be removed from school drop off zones, arterial (priority 1) roadways, and collector (priority 2) roadways as a first priority. Routes will be posted for parking restrictions during this process.
- Residential streets will remain to be compacted by traffic. On-street parking is a legal privilege, it may be restricted to facilitate managing both winter maintenance and any other operational maintenance requirements as needed. Remember, there is on-site required parking on residential properties. When parking on the streets are permitted, motorists should still exercise caution when evaluating where they park during winter conditions as well as how they drive.
- When rutting becomes severe (widespread and 150mm {6" deep}) on residential local streets, the snow will be plowed (blade leveled) to the side. Blade leveling will remove the high spots and fill in some of the low spots, but will not involve scraping the packed snow down to the pavement. This is done to help protect underlying utilities (water) from freezing and to reduce the costs.
- When there is no longer room to safely store snow on the sides, the roadway will be posted for parking restrictions, plowed and snow removed.
- Sidewalks on Centennial Drive and Main Street in the arterial commercial and City owned properties will be cleaned as soon as possible.



Major Snowfalls (greater than 15cm)

During a major snowfall, the City will focus on restoring transportation routes within the city before returning to clean any boulevard ridges or windrows. The following will be the typical procedure for major snowfalls:

- All streets are plowed to the side as soon as snow has stopped falling. The order of roadway clearing will follow a priority system based on traffic and safety (see the priority map).
- The priority for plowing is arterial and collector roadways, school areas, residential streets and lanes with multiple unit dwellings.
- As equipment becomes available from other priority areas, the remaining lanes are plowed.
- Snow will be removed from school drop off zones prior to school days as a first priority. Once the entire city street system has been plowed; the arterial and collector roadways will fall back to the first priority for snow removal. Routes will be posted for parking restrictions during this process.
- On residential local roadways when there is no longer room to safely store snow on the sides, the roadway will be posted for parking restrictions, plowed and snow removed.

The City will continue to post areas for a minimum of 24 hours prior to plowing for total removal. Parking restrictions may be in place for an extended period of time in a large snow event.

Snow Piles and Windrows

The Infrastructure & Planning Department will monitor snow piles and windrows for safe sight distances at key intersections and remove them as necessary. Priority will be given to intersections and open lane entrances in the vicinity of schools and where high volumes of pedestrian activity exist. In situations where above-average snowfalls are experienced, it may be impractical to remove every snow pile, and priority will be devoted to areas with the highest traffic volumes and major intersections

When windrows in residential areas are over one meter in height, or when the majority of the street block is less than two lanes wide which impedes the safe flow of traffic, the snow will be removed. This will be monitored by the Infrastructure & Planning Department, and will be completed when resources are available.

Lanes and Alleys

In circumstances where primary access or required parking for properties is located off of a back lane, snow clearing in the alley may take place before front street snow clearing. It should be noted that due to size constraints, different equipment is used on streets and lanes. To optimize efficiency with the available equipment, the snow clearing on some lanes and alleys may take place concurrently with higher priority roadways.



How Can I Improve the Service?

The following is a list of things which residents can do to assist the Infrastructure & Planning Department in ensuring the snow and ice removal program is effective and efficient:

- Do not under any circumstances shovel, blow, or push snow from private property onto the street. This adds to the amount of snow that is spilled off the end of the snow-gate blade and subsequently to the snow ridge on the driveway. Offenders may be ticketed and be required to move snow back to your property. Details can be found in the City of Martensville Snow Removal Bylaw No. 56-2006, which is available for viewing at www.martensville.ca.
- Do not plow or pile snow on streets. Piling snow in the street is only acceptable if it is there temporarily and will be cleaned up by yourself. Eg. Digging a vehicle out of the snow that was parked on the street. Leaving piles of snow in streets can result in safety hazards for motorists, as well as safety hazards resulting from blocked access to manholes and water valves.
- Clear your driveways in advance of the city's snow clearing operations. This helps the plow operators more easily identify the limits of the driveway, and helps to ensure that the snow-gate blade gets dropped to minimize windrows in front of driveways.
- To ensure crews are able to complete their work, vehicles obstructing the removal process may be ticketed and towed, or plowed around which would result in a snow ridge blocking the car in place. The removal of this snow ridge would be the responsibility of the vehicle owner. If you are leaving on vacation, do not park your vehicle in an area where it could obstruct snow removal procedures.
- Do not leave large piles of snow at the corners of driveways. This can be caught by a raised snow-gate blade and topple over into your driveway or the street.
- As implied, the equipment has a limit on how much snow it can carry and how far it can carry it. Where there are multiple neighboring driveways, or very wide driveways, it may be helpful to pre-clean some of the snow back from the front edge of the driveway and place it in the tree/lawn areas behind the walkways.

P.O. Box 970
37 Centennial Drive South
Martensville SK S0K 2T0



Phone (306) 931-2166
Fax (306) 933-2468
Website www.martensville.ca

Where Can I Get More Information?

The City of Martensville will communicate to residents about snow clearing activities going on by using a combination of; informational notices, the City of Martensville website (www.martensville.ca), and the City of Martensville Facebook page. Please take some time to check and see if there is any new information posted.

As always, the City of Martensville Infrastructure & Planning Department responds to issues brought to our attention by residents. To report an issue, please phone City Hall at (306) 931-2166 where your information will be taken, or you will be directed to speak to the appropriate personnel. All reported complaints will be evaluated, and put into a priority queue for completion where appropriate. Our staff may call you back when a more detailed explanation is needed.

The City of Martensville strives to offer an exemplary level of service to the residents of Martensville. Due to the unpredictable nature of weather events, snow and ice control activities may vary slightly from the plan proposed in this notice. Every reasonable effort will be made to remove snow and ice and create safe driving and walking conditions in a timely manner.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation!
