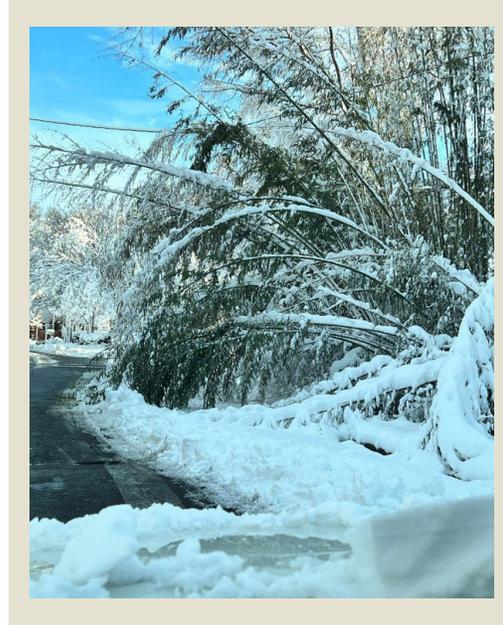


# TOWN OF CHEVERLY SNOW REMOVAL FAQs

## **Why do the plows block my driveway with snow?**

The primary goal of plowing is to remove snow from streets so that the road is open for emergency and residential vehicles. Snowplows push the snow from the travel lanes of the road to the driver's right side: unfortunately, this results in snow piling up in front of driveways.



## **The plow left snow at the end of my driveway.**

### **Can you send someone to come and plow it out?**

It is the responsibility of the resident to clear the driveway and mailbox area of their property. The plows do not come back and plow out any driveways. In some instances, piling snow that has been shoveled from the driveway on the downstream side (flow of traffic side) of the driveway, which is usually to the right of your driveway apron when facing the street, may minimize this issue. When the snowplow hits the pile, it should be moved downstream and not back onto your driveway.

## **Can you tell me exactly when my street will be plowed?**

Unfortunately, we cannot give you an estimate of when your street will be cleared due to ever-changing weather conditions.



When Public Works crews are activated and snow operations have commenced, snow removal operations will be deployed simultaneously to the East Side and West Side, and continue until every street has been plowed or salted at least once. As weather conditions change, we often must alter our snow fighting strategy in the midst of the snow removal operations and may pre-treat the roads with salt before beginning to plow.

## How does the Town prioritize streets for snow removal?

**Primary streets** - these streets receive first attention during snow removal operations. It is the goal of the Town to clear primary streets and have these passable before moving on to other responsibilities.

- Cheverly Avenue
- Forest Road
- Parkway
- Crest Avenue
- Belleview Avenue
- 63rd Avenue
- 64th Avenue
- 62nd Avenue
- State Street
- Lydell Road

**Secondary streets** - once primary streets have been cleared, secondary streets will be plowed. The Town's goal is to provide passage on secondary streets before backtracking to primary streets for widening operations. Once secondary streets have passage and primary streets are widened, secondary streets will be widened.

## Why doesn't the snowplows chop off the ice?

Snowplows do not have hydraulic down pressure that would be required to "cut" ice. Plows work only by the weight of the plow, which is then transferred to the blade, and this will not cut packed ice. Once traffic packs the snow, the blade will only remove the loose snow from the road.

## How much snow do we have to have before the town starts plowing?

Generally, 2-3 inches of snow must accumulate before DPW begins plowing and we continue until town roads are clear. Usually, salt or deicing operations occur at the beginning of the storm. Salt trucks, however, may be on collector roads in advance.

### **Are Town roads treated with salt?**

DPW crews use salt for deicing operations on Town roads. Major roads and hills are prioritized. Depending upon the weather event, predicted temperatures and snow amounts, the Town may pre-treat the roads with salt before beginning to plow.



### **How difficult is it to plow snow drifts?**

Drifting is a factor that makes it extremely difficult to clear roads. When snow drifts or blows, it may require snowplows to plow the same road and same lane multiple times.

### **What do I do if I have an emergency during a major snow event?**

If residents have an emergency during a storm, they should call 911.

### **What do I do if my road or street does not get plowed?**

Please wait 12 hours, especially during a heavy snowfall, and then contact the Department of Public Works at (301) 773-2666 with your address.

### **What kind of schedule does the Department of Public Works maintain in a snow emergency?**

The goal is to have at least two lanes open on major roads, and one lane open on all Town roads before ceasing operations; thus, there is no set schedule.

## **Will my trash, recycling, yard waste and backdoor trash be picked up during a snow emergency?**

When possible, the Department of Public Works tries to maintain curbside trash and recycling operations. If snow accumulates on grass, sidewalks, and driveways, Public Works must often suspend backdoor trash and recycling pickups for the safety of crew members. Yard waste and other normal operations are often suspended or delayed when snow emergencies occur.

## **Should I move my car when they are calling for snow?**

Cars parked on the street can cause problems for snowplows. The parking regulations and restrictions listed below assist with snow operations. Please note that if you park your car in a driveway during a snow event and while snow operations are underway, your car will not interfere with any snowplows or other snow operations. The following guides residents during snow emergencies:

### **PARKING RESTRICTIONS**

During a snow emergency no person shall park any vehicle as follows:

- On the cul-de-sac portion of any street;
- On any courts;
- On the odd-numbered side of 59th Avenue, 3200 block of Tremont Avenue, and that portion of Inwood Street between Cheverly Avenue and Belleview Avenue;
- On the even-numbered side of all other streets; and
- On any street except at the curb pursuant to this section.



### **NOTE:**

The snow emergency parking restrictions do not override existing no-parking zones or apply to streets where enforcement would disallow all parking because of a no-parking zone, or to streets with any barrier or strip dividing lanes of traffic.

## **Why doesn't the Town plow the roads outside of the neighborhoods?**

The Town of Cheverly can only plow within Town limits and does not have the authority, the equipment, or staff to plow County or State roads.

## **Who is responsible for plowing the County and State roads?**

For Prince George's County Snow and Ice Control, please call 301-350-0500.

For Maryland State Highway Administration, call 410-545-0300.



## **Can you provide some overall tips and guidelines for residents regarding snow, parking and utility information?**

### **Winter Storm Parking:**

- Use driveways if possible.
- Leave streets clear for snowplows.
- Parking is prohibited on the even-numbered side of streets when the snow has accumulated 1" or more, except where parking is normally restricted to one side, such as 59th Ave.

These provisions are in effect without notification and shall remain in effect until the street is plowed. The town may tow cars to a nearby cleared street, or to an impoundment lot, and ticket them.

## **Sidewalks:**

Residents are responsible for clearing snow from their sidewalks within 12 hours after snow ceases or within 12 hours of sunrise.



If ice forms on sidewalks, it must be removed within 6 hours. If unable to remove, sidewalks should be covered with sand, sawdust, ashes, etc. until it can be cleared.

## **What should I do if I need help shoveling snow at my home?**

Residents who may need assistance clearing snow from sidewalks, driveways, or walkways are encouraged to plan before a winter storm.

If you need help shoveling snow, please contact the Mayor and/or your Council Member. Early communication helps ensure assistance can be coordinated as safely and efficiently as possible.

## **How can I prepare for a winter storm?**

Residents are encouraged to monitor weather forecasts and Town updates and prepare in advance for possible disruptions. Stock essential emergency supplies, including food, water, flashlights, batteries, and especially necessary medications. Be sure to refuel vehicles, charge mobile devices, and keep snow removal tools and ice melt easily accessible.

Check on neighbors and pets, particularly those who may need additional assistance. Residents are also encouraged to shovel periodically throughout the storm to prevent heavy accumulation that may become difficult or unsafe to clear later.

Advance preparation helps ensure safety and reduces risk during winter weather events.



**Downed street tree limbs or street trees:**

Call the Town of Cheverly Public Works at 301-773-2666, and crews will be assigned as soon as possible.

**Downed private tree limbs or private trees:**

DPW cannot pick up downed trees or limbs from private property. If you have downed branches from private trees or limbs, you must cut them into 4-foot sections, and they must be less than 4 inches in diameter to be picked up with yard waste.

**Downed power lines or suspected power lines:**

Call Pepco at 202-833-7500.

**Downed cable lines:**

Call Comcast at 800-266-2278.

**Downed telephone and Fios lines:**

Call Verizon at 800-837-4966.