

	Town of Qualicum Beach	Policy Manual
	Subject: Administration – Public Works Snow & Ice Control	
	Policy Number: 3012-2	

Purpose

To facilitate responding to emergencies by fire, police and ambulance.

To reduce hazardous roadway and sidewalk conditions which may contribute to accident or injury.

To maintain roadways, runway and sidewalks in a manner to minimize economic loss and inconvenience to the community.

To provide a guide for management and operating personnel for winter maintenance operations.

Policy

Our goal is to reduce the inconvenience of winter conditions for traveling public and pedestrians to the greatest degree possible within our operational and financial resources. The Town of Qualicum Beach will undertake snow and ice control through a prioritized program developed with the assistance of the RCMP, Fire Department, Emergency Health Services, School District #69, Regional Transit, Telus, BC Hydro and the Qualicum Beach Emergency Program.

Procedure

Snow Clearing

All municipal snow-clearing vehicles have preset areas, which are required to be maintained during a snowfall. These areas will be cleared according to the following priorities:

1. Clear snow for all emergency establishments and surrounding routes. These areas include the ambulance and fire stations.
2. Clear and maintain all arterial roads while snowfall continues. The Ring road (Rupert/Bennett/Laburnum Roads), Memorial Avenue, First Avenue West, Second Avenue, Jones Street, Fern Road, Primrose Street, Beach Road and Highway 19A are examples of main arterial roads.
3. Clear and maintain collector roads while snowfall continues. Arbutus Street, Chartwell Boulevard, Eaglecrest Drive and Qualicum Road are examples of collector roads.
4. Clear residential through roads.

5. Clear CAT4 – Qualicum Beach Airport runway and apron.
6. Clear residential cul-de-sacs and residential lanes last. Only access roads serving more than two homes are to be plowed. It takes approximately 72 hours to reach cul-de-sacs from the time it stops snowing. If snow falls again within that time, crews must return to streets with higher priority.

Sanding/De-icing (Salting)

Sand and/or de-icing materials will be applied by equipment dedicated for this purpose, in the proportions considered appropriate for the particular road and weather conditions prevailing at the time and those forecasted to occur. The Superintendent of Public Works, Parks & Buildings, or the Superintendent's designate, will make this decision based on daily local weather forecasts and actual road conditions. In addition, if called upon by the RCMP road patrol officers, specific sanding/de-icing will be applied where requested.

Sidewalk Clearing

Residents and businesses are responsible for clearing of snow or ice from sidewalks in front of or abutting their premises, in accordance with Traffic Bylaw No. 225.

Snow Removal

Snow removal is the plowing of snow into windrows, loading onto trucks and subsequently hauling snow to predetermined snow disposal sites. The Community Park parking lot at the top of Park Road is designated as a snow disposal site. Snow removal operations shall be undertaken only in situations where lack of adequate storage prohibits the normal winter movement of vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic and for reasons of safety such as sight restrictions at intersections. During most winter seasons, snow removal will not be done. Snow removal priorities will be as follows:

- Priority #1 Streets in the Village core area
- Priority #2 Locations where sight restrictions are created by piled snow.
- Priority #3 Windrows of snow at bus stops, school drop off zones, and important public and business areas.
- Priority #4 Windrows of snow only fronting tourist commercial parking stalls along Highway 19A.

Additional Labour and Equipment to Combat Major Storms

If, following a major storm, insufficient personnel and equipment are available within the Municipal forces, rented equipment shall be engaged at the discretion of the Superintendent of Public Works, Parks & Buildings, or the Superintendent's designate.

Towing

One of the main obstacles hampering efficient snow plowing and removal is parked or abandoned vehicles. Parking or abandoning vehicles on municipal roads when snow operations are in progress may result in vehicles being towed at the owner's expense.

Responsibility Superintendent of Public Works, Parks & Buildings, or designate

References Traffic Bylaw No. 225.

Distribution All staff
RCMP
School District No. 69
BC Ambulance
Regional District of Nanaimo - Transit
Local Telus
Local BC Hydro