



2018-2019 Northern Virginia District SNOW FACTS

LANE MILES TO PLOW: 13,942



Interstate: 770
Primary: 1,791
Secondary: 11,306
(includes 16,000 subdivision streets)

Crews work interstates, major roads, and main subdivision roads in priority order.

MOBILIZATION

We monitor the forecast closely and mobilize crews and resources. Trucks report, load, and deploy:

- 12-18 hours before small event
- 18-24 hours before large storm



If 2" + of snow is forecast, residents may see trucks staged in neighborhoods.



PIECES OF EQUIPMENT
3,500
(97% contracted)



ANTI-ICING



- A few days in advance
- If pavement temps are above 20 degrees
- If weather won't begin as rain
- Most effective during first hour of storm

CLEARANCE GOALS



After storm ends:
2-4": 24 hours
4-6": 48 hours
6" +: 72 hours

Crews start treating once precipitation starts. They start plowing once 2" of snow has fallen.

2,150 LANE MILES of interstates and major roads including bridges, ramps, and overpasses are treated with brine and/or liquid magnesium chloride.



DID YOU KNOW?

Brine is a mix of 23% salt and 77% water. It is sprayed as a liquid that dries to create white "brine lines" on the pavement.

MAINTENANCE AREA HQ: 18

Arlington: 1 • Fairfax: 9 • Loudoun: 4 • Prince William: 4



Salt domes and sheds: 24

Our largest dome, at I-495 and Van Dorn Street in Alexandria, holds 33,000 tons of salt.

MATERIALS ON HAND



Brine: 250,000 gallons
Salt: 120,000 tons
Sand: 25,000 tons

ONE VDOT



All of our staff work as a team during snow to keep roads safe, whether they drive trucks, monitor progress from the road or remotely, order materials or provide office support and customer service.

SNOW MAPS



In northern Virginia, roads are divided among 633 maps assigned to plow drivers. Interstates and high-volume roads are made passable, then bare pavement where possible. Neighborhood main roads are made passable, then remaining streets and cul-de-sacs.

WHAT DOES "PASSABLE" MEAN?



- ✓ In neighborhoods, an 8'-to-10' path for emergency vehicle access.
- ✓ Drivable with extreme caution, but is snow-packed and not curb-to-curb or to bare pavement.
- ✓ Crews will sand hills, curves and intersections to help with traction.

HOW RESIDENTS CAN HELP

- ✓ Monitor weather closely, as forecasts can improve or worsen quickly.
- ✓ Adjust commutes, telework, or avoid driving during a storm and after until road conditions improve.
- ✓ Park in driveways or on the same side of the street.
- ✓ Wait to shovel driveways until plows have come, as they will push some snow back.
- ✓ Have enough gas, wiper fluid, proper tires, medication, and an emergency car kit.
- ✓ Be patient: crews need time and room to work.
- ✓ While we do not clear sidewalks, crews are asked to be mindful, especially near schools. There is often limited room to pile snow in significant storms, to make roads passable. Residents and businesses are asked to clear near their properties. Check with your locality for ordinances.

STAY INFORMED



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EMERGENCY INFORMATION

See virginiadot.org/novaemergency for updates, FAQs, and other resources



CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

Report road hazards at 800-FOR-ROAD (367-7623) or my.vdot.virginia.gov



511 VIRGINIA

Check traffic conditions before you travel at 511virginia.gov



VDOT PLOWS

Visit vdotplows.org for plow status and locations once 2" of snow has fallen