2019-2020 Northern Virginia District SNOW FACTS

LANE MILES TO PLOW: 14,025

Interstate: 802
Primary: 1,781
Secondary: 11,366
(includes 16,862 subdivision streets)

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

PIECES OF EQUIPMENT: 3,500

MOBILIZATION

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

- **12-18 hours** before smaller event
- **18-24 hours** before large storm

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

CLEARANCE GOALS

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

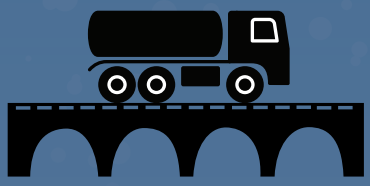
Crews start treating once precipitation starts.

They start plowing once 2" of snow has accumulated.

ANTI-ICING

- Reduces bonding to asphalt and concrete
- Performed if pavement temps are above 20 degrees and weather won't begin as rain
- Most effective during first hour of storm

Depending upon the storm and the window of time, we may perform a partial or full anti-icing treatment of bridges, overpasses, elevated surfaces, primary and/or secondary roads.



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.

18 MAINTENANCE AREA HEADQUARTERS

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

VDOT

2019-2020 Northern Virginia Snow Facts

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.

SNOW MAPS

In northern Virginia, roads are divided among 647 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.

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

TWITTER
Follow @vadotnova for the latest news, updates, photos, and information

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

VDOT PLOWS
Visit vdotplows.org for plow status and locations once 2" of snow has accumulated

511 VIRGINIA
Check traffic conditions before you travel at 511virginia.gov