Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

A Better Winter Starts Here

Your guide to winter maintenance in Fort McMurray



What's new this winter?

We've made improvements to winter maintenance to help crews clear streets faster, improve public information, and reduce delays caused by illegally parked vehicles.



Winter Maintenance Progress Map

The Winter Maintenance Progress Map provides you with a simple way to check progress in your neighbourhood and understand any delays.



More equipment and resources

More equipment is being added to the winter maintenance fleet, including ice breaker attachments, loaders, and graders, to make operations more efficient and tackle difficult road conditions during the winter season.



Extreme Weather Response Plan

An Extreme Weather Response Plan – with clear operational triggers – will ensure crews can shift resources and access contractor support quickly during extreme weather events.

When the plan is triggered, WMZ schedules may be temporarily paused, and additional parking restrictions may be activated.



Ticketing and towing

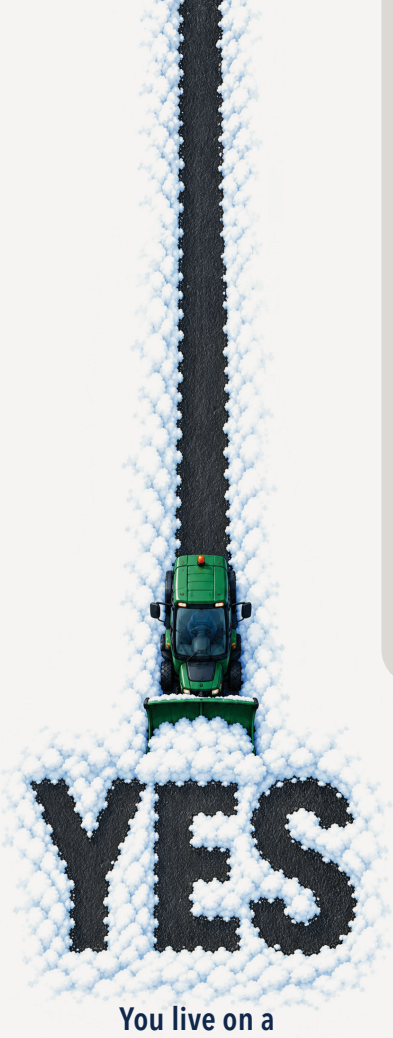
Stronger enforcement helps keep roads clear so that crews can maintain roads easier and faster and avoid delays.

Vehicles parked illegally during winter maintenance operations **will be ticketed** and **may be towed** to the nearest available lawful parking location. The parking fine has increased to **$400**. If paid within seven days, it will be reduced to $240.

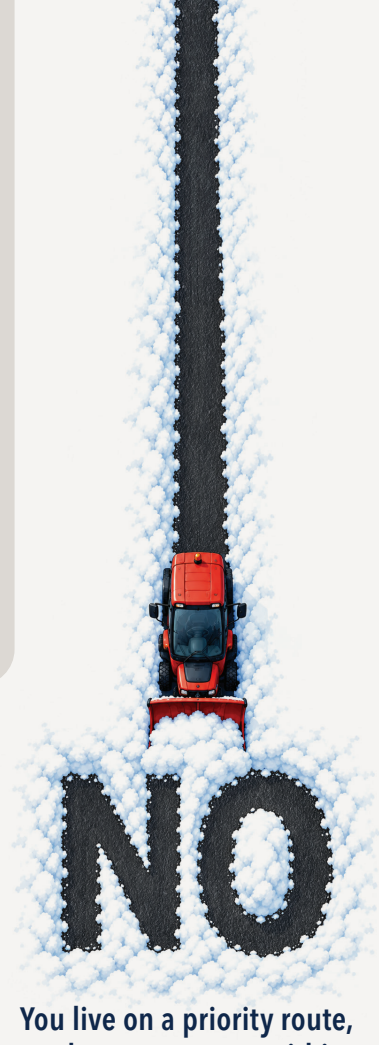


Winter Maintenance 101

Winter maintenance takes place on more than 510 roads in Fort McMurray, and how snow is cleared depends on the kind of road. The priority routes – Priority One, Priority Two, and Priority Three – are not included in the Winter Maintenance Zone (WMZ) program.



You live on a street within the WMZ Program.



You live on a priority route, and not on a street within the WMZ program.

Is your street in a Winter Maintenance Zone?

Use the Find Your Zone tool at **rmwb.ca**/wmz
You can also look for posted signage on your street.

Know your Subzone and maintenance day

Check the status of your Subzone every week during the winter.

When your Subzone is **active**, move your vehicle off the street on your maintenance day between **7 a.m. and 6 p.m.** When your Subzone is **inactive**, you may park on the street without being ticketed or towed.

Keep up to date:

- Sign up for WMZ alerts to receive weekly email updates
- Follow the RMWB on Facebook and X **@rmwoodbuffalo**
- Check **rmwb.ca**/wmz
- Contact Pulse at **780-743 -7000** or **rmwb.ca**/pulse
- Watch for electronic signage

Watch out for on-street parking restrictions

Find your street's assigned Subzone and maintenance day on the permanent signs in your neighbourhood. You can also use the Find Your Zone tool at **rmwb.ca**/wmz.

Your maintenance day stays the same, but your Subzone is not active every week. Most weeks, it switches between active and inactive, so you usually only need to move your vehicle off the street **once every two weeks**.

If crews don't reach your street

There may be times when your Subzone is active and maintenance doesn't happen on your street.

Crews may not complete every street during an active week because of snowfall, snow removal work, or illegally parked vehicles. Streets that are not completed will be tracked and prioritized the next time the Subzone is active.



Check the Winter Maintenance Progress Map to track winter maintenance work in your neighbourhood and understand any delays: **rmwb.ca**/WMZ.

Driveway windrow removal

On WMZ streets, crews will remove windrows (the snowbanks left from equipment) higher than **15 cm** from driveway entrances. This may not happen immediately after the street is plowed.

Learn how winter maintenance is performed on Priority One, Priority Two, and Priority Three routes.

Winter maintenance happens regularly on priority routes and isn't subject to specific dates or subzone scheduling.

Priority routes are plowed regularly to keep them safe and accessible for the many people that use them.

Driveway windrow removal is up to you

If you live on a priority route, your street receives regular winter maintenance, resulting in driveway windrows (the snowbanks left from equipment) that you are responsible for removing.



Watch for temporary "no parking" signs

If you live on a priority route, you can park on your street when it is being plowed, as the street is big enough for the plow to go around parked vehicles.

For scheduled snow removal, temporary "no parking" signs are placed on the road 24 hours in advance. Start dates for snow removal on priority routes are shared on social media, WMZ email alerts, and by calling Pulse. If you are unsure, do not park on the street when the signs are out.

Plowing and snow removal are different

Snow plowing operations

Crews push snow to the sides of your street to maintain at least one traffic lane. This can create windrows.

Snow removal operations

Snow removal happens less often than snow plowing, typically once or twice a year. When snow builds up, crews and equipment load snow into trucks and haul it to a snow storage site. This takes much longer than plowing, as it is a more complex operation.

Avoid a $400 Ticket

We'd much rather educate you about on-street parking restrictions than ticket and tow vehicles.

If your vehicle is parked illegally during winter maintenance operations, it **will be ticketed** and **may be towed** to the nearest available lawful parking location, such as a nearby street without parking restrictions in place.

To find out the exact location of your towed vehicle, call Pulse at **780-743-7000**.

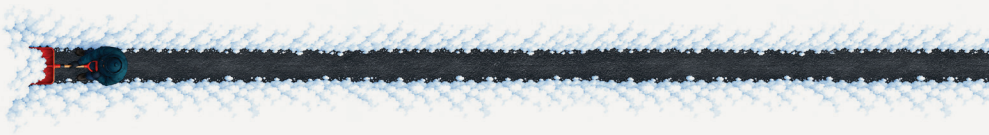


Help keep winter maintenance on track

Crews and heavy equipment need room to do their work.
Your neighbours also rely on you to keep sidewalks and roads clear.

Do your part by following these guidelines:

- Remove mats and sports nets from the curb and street.
- Follow parking restrictions.
- Park as close as possible to the windrow (snowbank) on the side of the street.
- Clear your sidewalks within 48 hours of a snowfall.
- Do not shovel snow back onto your street.
- Stay safely away from crews, equipment, windrows, and snow piles.



Help a neighbour – be a SNOW ANGEL

Help your neighbours with mobility challenges get through winter.

Sign up to be a Snow Angel at **rmwb.ca**/SnowAngels



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Have questions?

Connect with Pulse at **780-743-7000**
or visit **rmwb.ca**/SnowPlow