

**MAYOR'S MESSAGE**  
Craig A. Stough 12/5/2024

"Snow and Ice Removal in Sylvania"

With the completion of the annual leaf collection approaching, City of Sylvania Street Division Crews will be transitioning to roadway snow and ice removal. They will remove the leaf boxes from the City trucks and begin installing snow plows, salt spreaders and liquid brine tanks and applicators for the coming winter season.

Snow and ice removal are an important service for our residents and is a big job in the City of Sylvania with over 73 miles of roadways to keep clear. Last winter, Streets Division workers spent 461 hours and used 535 tons of rock salt to remove snow and ice from the roads. 2,334 gallons of liquid calcium chloride was needed to help remove ice in very cold storms last year. The Sylvania Parks Division also spent 339 hours clearing public parking lots and sidewalks. Those numbers were all lower than last year and two years ago due to a mild winter season.

Some of the rock salt is mixed into brine and applied to the streets a day or two before predicted storms. The brine appears as white lines on the pavement, and prevents snow and ice from building up as the storm begins. Last year 19,702 gallons of salt brine was prepared and used. The City of Sylvania has two trucks equipped with liquid brine applicators and 11' wide snow plows, and five more trucks equipped with rock salt spreaders and 11' wide snow plows.

Snow Advisories and Emergency Levels are declared as snow and ice are forecasted or accumulates on the streets. Level I Snow Advisory is due to conditions caused by ice, blowing and drifting snow, which can make roadways hazardous. Residents should drive cautiously. Level II Snow Advisory, in addition to elements detailed in a Level 1 Advisory include ice, blowing and drifting snow causing low visibility on roadways. Only persons with a real and important need to be out on roads and streets should do so. Level III Snow Emergency limits travel to emergency and essential personnel only. No one should be on roadways during the duration of a Level III Snow Emergency unless absolutely necessary. Level III Snow Emergencies will be declared whenever severe ice and/or four or more inches of snow is forecast or accumulates on the streets.

During a Level III Snow Emergency, there will be no parking permitted on City streets to allow the snow plows to efficiently clear the streets, and also keep the streets wide enough for emergency vehicles to respond to calls for service. Any vehicles parked in the streets during snow emergencies will be subject to ticketing and towing. Residents will be notified of a Level III Snow Emergency through the media and by the Sylvania Alerts System, which residents can subscribe to without cost by visiting <https://co.lucas.oh.us/2644/Lucas-County-Alerts>. The snow emergencies will also be posted on the City's social media sites.

Residents are also reminded of the legal requirement to clear sidewalks in front of their property by the next morning following a snowstorm. Although most residents clear their sidewalks, the City always receives complaints about some who don't.

Snow and ice removal often keep the trucks on the road 24 hours a day until the roads are clear. The heavier the storm, the longer the clearing process. The trucks will clear main roads first and

then make one pass on all residential streets following predetermined routes, then return for a second pass to widen residential streets out to full width.

Last winter was milder with less snow than two years ago. Let's hope we don't have too much severe winter weather this year. When we do have storms, our City crews and equipment are ready and will be on the road working to keep them clear of snow and ice.



City truck equipped with brine tank and spreader



City truck equipped with salt spreader