

Winter Weather Reminders

Happy Friday! With snow predicted for our region in the coming days, here are a few winter weather reminders as we head into the weekend:

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) treats and plows most roads in Fairfax County. Before a potential storm, VDOT pre-treats interstates, major roads, bridges, ramps and overpasses with brine and/or liquid magnesium chloride. Brine is simply a mix of 23% salt and 77% water that is sprayed onto the roads and dries to create white "brine lines" on the pavement.

VDOT crews begin plowing when two inches of snow have fallen. Crews prioritize interstate highways, major roads and main subdivision roads. After a storm ends, VDOT aims to have plowed one passable lane on all roads within the following time frames:

2-4" of snow: 24 hours

4-6" of snow: 48 hours

6" or more: 72 hours

VDOT is responsible for 13,942 miles of road in Northern Virginia, so please be patient as their crews work hard to get to your street.

REMINDERS FOR DRIVING IN THE SNOW:

- **Get where you need to be** before the weather gets bad.
- **Monitor weather to stay informed** of the latest timing and intensity along your travel routes.
- **Adjust commutes** to avoid the worst of the weather until conditions improve.
- **Take it slow** on bridges, ramps, overpasses and other known trouble spots.
- **Ensure gas tanks and windshield fluid tanks are full**, and take time to update your car's emergency kit.
- **Watch for pedestrians** as sidewalks may not be clear.
- **Give plows plenty of space to work.**

PHONE NUMBERS:

- Police, Fire, Ambulance Emergency: call or text 911
- Public Safety Non-Emergency: 703-691-2131
- VDOT: 1-800-367-7623

- Fairfax County Emergency Information Line: 703-817-7771
- Washington Gas Emergency Line: 844-927-4427
- Columbia Gas Emergency Line: 1-800-544-5606
- Dominion Energy: 1-866-DOM-HELP (1-866-366-4357)
- Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative (NOVEC): 1-888-335-0500
- Fairfax Water: 703-698-5613

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Check the Fairfax County [Emergency Information Blog](#)
- Follow [@fairfaxcounty](#) on Twitter
- Read the [Fairfax County Guide to Snow](#)
- Sign up for [Fairfax Alerts](#)
- View the [VDOT Snow Plow Tracker Map](#)
- Visit VDOT's [website](#)

If you see someone who is unsheltered and could be at risk of hypothermia, please call the Fairfax County Police Non-Emergency number at 703-691-2131.

During snow events, my staff and I check office phone messages (703-324-2321) and email (chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov) remotely. If we do not answer right away, please leave a detailed message about your question or concern, along with your phone number and email address. We will get back to you as soon as we can to make sure you are getting the assistance you need.

Lastly, if you are in need of federal services during the Federal Government Shutdown, please contact [Coordinated Services Planning](#) at 703-222-0880 (TTY 711) for assistance. Our local government staff will help connect you to resources that can aid you during this time.

Stay safe and warm!



Sharon Bulova
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors