

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**BUREAU OF HIGHWAYS**

**MAINTENANCE SHOP NUMBERS**

**1ST District—Abingdon Maintenance Shop**

**3111 Philadelphia Road  
Abingdon, Maryland 21090  
410-612-1616**

**2nd District—Hickory I Maintenance Shop**

**1807 N. Fountain Green Rd  
Bel Air, Maryland 21015  
410-638-3208**

**3rd District—Whiteford Maintenance Shop**

**1405 Pylesville Road  
Whiteford, Maryland 21160  
410-638-3606**

**4th District—Jarrettsville Maintenance Shop**

**1348 Cooptown Road  
Forest Hill, Maryland 21050  
410-692-7854**

**Hickory II Main Highway Facility**

**1807 North Fountain Green Road  
Bel Air, Maryland 21015  
410-638-3279 OR 410-638-3280  
Pothole Hotline: 410-638-3376  
Fax Number: 410-879-8263**

**Web Site: HWYS @harfordcountymd.gov**

**Preserving Harford's Past;  
Promoting Harford's Future**



**HARFORD COUNTY  
MARYLAND**



**SNOWPLOWING  
&  
SNOW REMOVAL  
PROCEDURES**



**WHEN IT SNOWS**

When it snows, DPW employees concentrate on keeping the major County roads and primary neighborhood roads passable. These roads are cleared as soon as possible after the storm is over.

Application of materials begins as soon as snow starts to fall. Plowing begins when snow is three or more inches deep and the temperature indicates that there will be no melting. Even after plowing, snow that has been hard packed by traffic often remains on the street, where the County plows are unable to remove it completely. In this situation, salt is applied to promote melting.

After the snow stops falling, and after the major County roads and primary neighborhood roads are cleared, crews concentrate on clearing snow from all neighborhood streets and salt is applied.

**WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT WHEN IT SNOWS:**

**0—6 Inches**

It takes about 8-16 hours following the end of a 0-6 inch snowfall to plow and/or treat every County road once.

**6—12 Inches**

After a 6-12 inch snowfall, you can expect County roads to be cleared within 24 to 36 hours. At that time, one pass should have been made through all County roads.

**12—18 Inches**

After a 12-18 inch snowfall, our crews will complete the work in about 35 to 40 hours.

**18—24 Inches**

After an 18—24 inch snowfall, you can expect one pass to have been made through all County roads in 48—72 hours.

**However, the type of snow (wet or powdery), the temperature, and wind conditions following the storm can alter this schedule.**

Please be patient! Roads are plowed according to their priority and reviewed at the end of each season. Snow fighters work around the clock until all 1045 miles of County maintained roads are passable.

We will use a force of approx. 201 employees and 158 pieces of snow removal equipment for routine snow plowing and we have available 20 additional pieces of equipment for use when conditions dictate.

We store 20,000 tons of salt to get the job done.

**FIRST PRIORITY**

**EMERGENCY ROADS**

**SECOND PRIORITY**

**MAIN ROADS**

**THIRD PRIORITY**

**SECONDARY ROADS & CUL-DE-SACS**

## THE BLIZZARD OF 2010



The winter of 2009—2010 was one of the worst in the history of the state in terms of snowfall and one of the costliest for Harford County. Total cost for snow removal, including salt purchases, overtime and contractor utilization was \$2,764,000. This was well over our budgeted figure of \$1,500,000.

Harford County DPW, Division of Highways, as well as other various agencies, tallied 43,148.30 hours of overtime this winter for snow and ice removal.

During the February snow storm, more than 165 county personnel using 145 pieces of equipment and more than 20 private contractors worked throughout the week to clear snow and ice from more than 1,000 road miles throughout Harford County.

Snow removal has become a large factor in annual county budgets. A winter with mild temperatures and little snowfall may be followed by a winter with several severe snowstorms. In the last decade, snow belt cities were faced with insurmountable obstacles in their snow removal efforts

## PLOWING AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

### PLEASE NOTE

**PUSHING PROCEDURE:** Driver's are required to widen or push back curb to curb to open inlets and drainage courses to prevent melting snow from becoming packed ice or causing flooding problems. Also pushing curb to curb allows mail carriers to deliver mail and placement of snow behind curb for future snow events.

Parking your vehicles in the street greatly hinders snow removal operations and risks property damage as large equipment cannot maneuver efficiently

### WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING:

- » If you have a driveway, use it. The more cars off the road, the better and faster the operation can proceed, and the less likely it is that a vehicle will be plowed in, splashed by salt spray, or become the victim of a collision.
- » We ask that all portable basketball hoops (backstops) are to be removed from the Harford County right-of-way in order to help expedite our snow removal operation.
- » To help avoid the frustration that occurs when a snowplow covers your driveway with snow after you have shoveled, stand facing the road and shovel snow to the right into the yard instead of into the road.
- If you do not have a driveway, park on the **EVEN NUMBERED** side of the road in **EVEN** years, and **ODD NUMBERED** side of the road in **ODD** years, as close to the curb as possible. Move to the other side of the road after the plow has cleared it.

**EXAMPLE: 2010-2011 SEASON IS AN EVEN YEAR & 2011-2012 WILL BE AN ODD YR.**

### MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. **Can't the County remove the snow they put in my driveway?**

When you consider the large amount of driveways in the County, it would be costly and time consuming to use additional people and equipment to perform this service. Our primary duty is to open and maintain the roadway system.

2. **Why do the plows go so fast and throw snow on my sidewalk?**

Plows need to go a minimum speed in order to throw the snow off of the roadway onto storage areas in the public right-of-way. We ask our operators not to throw the snow any further than necessary. In some cases, however, the sidewalks may be too close to the curb to avoid getting snow on them.



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