

Please be patient...

Snow plowing is a difficult and time-consuming job. Since Township crews need many hours of intensive labor to complete snow clearing operations, travel during or immediately after a snowfall should be delayed unless truly necessary. The less traffic there is on the roads, the sooner the snow removal process can be accomplished.

All snow operations are conducted from the Township's Highway Division Office, (610) 726-7127. When you call the Highway Division about a condition, the information is immediately dispatched to a truck in your district. There is no need to call a second time.



Lower Merion
Township Highway
Division
(610) 726-7127
"Snow Central"

*The Public Works Department of
Lower Merion Township thanks you for
your cooperation.*

Dear Resident:

By becoming familiar with the information in this brochure, you will help the Township serve you better during the seasonal winter weather. *Some general guidelines:*

- Park in your driveway or garage
- Remember to park on the odd side of the street in odd years and on the even side in even years
- No parking in cul-de-sacs
- No parking on Snow Emergency Routes
- Do not shovel or plow snow into street
- Clear sidewalks within 24 hours of snow accumulation
- Problem? Call (610) 726-7127
- Check www.lowermerion.org, the Township Facebook page and Twitter feed, and LMTV (Comcast ch. 7 & Verizon ch. 37) for updates. In snow emergencies, the Township will contact residents and businesses via the **Blackboard Connect** telephone outreach service.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Have a warm and safe winter, and please drive carefully.



Sincerely,
The Public Works Staff

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When It Snows in Lower Merion Township



*Salting and Plowing Information:
Call "Snow Central" at
(610) 726-7127*

*Police Emergencies:
Call 9-1-1
Non-emergencies:
(610) 649-1000*

Visit www.lowermerion.org to sign up for emergency updates through our **e-Subscription** service and **Blackboard Connect** emergency call-out service. Also, tune in to **LMTV**, follow us on **Twitter** and "like" us on **Facebook** for the latest on road closures, power outages, and more.

General Information

The Public Works Department is responsible for the Township's snow and ice control operations. Both staff and its equipment are engaged in operation well before snow starts falling, until well after the accumulation stops.

Snow and ice operations can easily be spread out over an 18 to 36-hour period, depending on conditions, and each storm is different.

Forty-six Public Works vehicles are equipped for snow duty, including large dump trucks, pickup trucks and utility vehicles.

The Township road system is divided into **three priorities:**

- Priority I: Main arterial streets throughout the Township.
- Priority II: Roads that connect the main arterial streets.
- Priority III: neighborhood streets not considered Priority I or II.



The Township's snow routes include 204 miles of Township roads, 25.7 miles of State roads, and 8 miles of private roads.

When Snowfall Begins...

Parking Restrictions

If a snow emergency is declared, you will be notified by phone via *Blackboard Connect*, through the *Township website*, on *LMTV*, and via local media outlets, in addition to the Township's *Facebook page* and *Twitter account*. Once declared, parking on Snow Emergency Routes is prohibited. These routes are identified with red and white signs, and are listed on the Township's website.



- Parking in the circular portion of any cul-de-sac is prohibited.
- Vehicles travelling during a snow emergency should be equipped with snow tires or chains.

For safety reasons, crews cannot exceed working 18 consecutive hours.

Voluntary Parking Request

- Park in your driveway or garage if you have one.
- If off-street parking is not available, park on the even side of the street in even years and the odd side of the street in odd years.

SALTING: When roads start to freeze from precipitation, salting operations begin on Priority I roads and continue until all roads are completed, or until it is no longer effective to salt due to the depth of the snow. In consideration of the environment, all roads are salted only once. Liquid calcium chloride is used with the salt to speed the melting process.

PLOWING: If snow accumulates to 2 inches, plowing is required and salting ceases. As long as the snow keeps falling, the Township's first responsibility is to keep the main roads open and passable. In such instances, it is unlikely that Priority III roads will be reached, as main roads must be repeatedly plowed and kept open while the snow continues. Crews will widen roads with additional plow passes, moving snow back to the curb where possible. This is done to make room for the next snowfall, and to clear as much of the road as possible before it freezes.

Residential Driveways

Keep in mind that it is almost impossible to keep snow from being deposited at your driveway during plowing — the plow cannot be lifted or stopped at each driveway as it passes. If you have your driveway plowed before the street is completed, clear an area to the right of the driveway entrance (facing the house). In many cases, when your street is plowed, the snow from the plow can be unloaded in this area instead of at your driveway.

If you **HAVE** a driveway, **PARK IN IT!!**

Municipal Lots & Sidewalks

After road salting and plowing operations are completed, Township crews are scheduled to clean municipal lots, typically between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. All lots are salted for maximum safety. Many miles of Township-owned sidewalks are shoveled after snowfalls, and salted by hand. Residents and business owners are reminded that, by ordinance, all private sidewalks must be shoveled within 24 hours after snow stops falling.

