

How the Public Can Help with Storm Response Efforts

- Be patient and be assured that during a snow or ice event, every reasonable effort will be made to keep the roads passable and safe.
- Be informed of current and predicted weather conditions know your employers' inclement weather policy. The fewer cars on the road, the more effective the plowing operations.
- Be considerate of the snowplow operators. Their visibility is typically reduced due to the size and locations of various plow equipment mounted on the vehicle.
- Do not attempt to stop a snowplow or obstruct its path. Plow trucks, when loaded with sand and salt, weigh approximately 30 tons. It is a significant load and requires all of the operator's attention. The large trucks are not as maneuverable and agile as a passenger vehicle. They require extra time and distance to stop or avoid trouble.
- When approaching snow removal equipment from the rear, travel a minimum of 200 feet behind the equipment to avoid being hit with sand or salt, and to allow for abrupt movements and changes in direction, including unexpected backing of the plow truck.
- Use extreme caution when passing snow removal equipment. The truck operator's visibility is typically reduced due to the size and locations of various plow equipment mounted on the vehicle. It is advisable to not pass a plow truck.
- Do not park or leave a vehicle unattended along the roadway during a snow or ice event. Parked vehicles are a hazard not only to the snowplow operators but the traveling public as well. Any cars that are parked along the roadway may be called in to the Dutchess County Sherriff's Office for removal.
- When clearing driveways put the snow on the "down" side relative to the direction of travel by the snowplow. This will reduce the amount of snow re-deposited by the plow truck onto the driveway and minimize the amount of additional snow to be removed from the driveway.
- During times of severe storms or blizzard conditions, tune to local radio stations for information on travel advisories or official road closings.