



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2018

Peachland readies for winter

Residents reminded to not park on streets and shovel to the left

Peachland, BC - With the first snow of the season, the District of Peachland readies for street clearing and offers some winter reminders for residents.

“Our operators strive to get the roads in safe, drivable condition as soon as they can with school bus routes and arterial roads our priority, then the steepest roads and connector roads,” says Joe Mitchell, director of operations.

“Snow plowing and sanding can be delayed by vehicles parked on the road allowance. During winter conditions boulevards and right-of-ways must be kept clear of vehicles, boats and RVs.”

A parked or stored vehicle on a road right-of-way can fetch a ticket or be towed if left more than 72 hours.

Heavy and wet snow can affect plowing and sanding time of the District crews.

Council policy is to have major arterial roads plowed within 12 hours, secondary collector roads within 36 hours and residential streets within 96 hours.

There are 140 roads in Peachland totalling a distance of 65 km. Each street can take two to four passes to plow completely clear. Side streets, flat roads and cul-de-sacs are done last, unless they form part of completing a route in the most efficient, cost-effective and time-saving way.

Plowing snow into driveways is unavoidable and property owners are expected to remove the snow.

“We ask all residents not to shovel snow onto the roadway which makes it unsafe for other drivers, but rather to shovel it to the left,” says Mitchell.

Piling the snow on the left side of a driveway (when facing the property) gives a better line of vision of the traffic to the left when exiting a driveway. The “shovel-left” policy also ensures that when the plows go by those piles of snow will not be plowed back into a residential entrance.

In advance of and during a snowstorm, the District may spray magnesium chloride on high priority streets to improve road traffic safety. Salt and sand are more typically used as needed.

Residents are also reminded to shovel the sidewalk in front of their residence. Those needing assistance are encouraged to coordinate with neighbours, family, contractors or community volunteers for snow clearing. The Peachland Wellness Center can be reached at 250-767-0141 for a list of contractors who provide snow-clearing services.

Be safe and expect slippery conditions, says Mitchell. “Please use caution when

driving in winter conditions and ensure that your vehicle is equipped with good winter tires.”

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