



sanitation

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www.nyc.gov/sanitation

DSNY Issues ‘Winter Operations Advisory’ for Friday, December 23 at 8:00 a.m.

Department predicts a “white Christmas” – but white with 20 million pounds of salt, not snow, as New York’s Strongest prepare aggressive plan for busy pre-holiday travel day

The New York City Department of Sanitation has issued a Winter Operations Advisory for Friday, December 23rd, beginning at 8:00 a.m. A “Winter Operations Advisory” means plowing is not likely, as opposed to a “Snow Alert,” during which plowing is anticipated.

Heavy rains are expected to begin Thursday afternoon and continue for over 24 hours. While temperatures will be well over 50 degrees at times early in the storm, forecasters are predicting a rapid and drastic drop-off Friday afternoon to as low as 18 degrees – well below freezing. Depending on the exact timing of this temperature change, some snow is possible, however it is not expected to accumulate on roadways. **DSNY is preparing for the possibility of rain turning to dangerous black ice during a flash freeze.**

As such, the Department is filling Salt Spreaders and smaller equipment to pretreat New York City’s roads, and New York’s Strongest will be aggressively salting the streets and treating bike lanes to prevent ice accretion on one of the busiest travel days of the year. **New Yorkers can expect a “white Christmas” of salt, rather than snow.**

As this is predominantly a rain event, liquid brine will not be used. The Department is prepared to deploy plows in every sector in the unlikely event of roadway accumulations over two inches.

Other service updates:

- The Department of Transportation has paused the Open Restaurants program from 8:00 p.m. Thursday until 8:00 p.m. Friday for the safety of diners. DOT has advised participating restaurants to secure tables and chairs and remove electrical equipment for the duration of the weather event.
- Residents should continue to follow their normal collection schedule for trash, compost and recycling.
- Alternate Side Parking regulations and parking meters will operate as normal.

The Department is coordinating with other City agencies on winter weather protocol. All relevant city agencies have been notified and the Department will continue to monitor forecasts as the weather event proceeds.

All winter weather information and information about the City's response to the storm is subject to change as conditions warrant and can be found by visiting the City's Severe Weather website at www.nyc.gov/severeweather or by calling 311. New Yorkers are also encouraged to sign up for Notify NYC, the City's free emergency notification system. Through Notify NYC, New Yorkers can sign up to receive phone calls, text messages, and emails alerts about severe weather events and emergencies. To sign up for Notify NYC, call 311, visit www.nyc.gov or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.

Find information on Sanitation snow operations along with residents' responsibilities during and after snow at nyc.gov/snow.

About the New York City Department of Sanitation

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City clean, safe, and healthy by collecting, recycling and disposing of waste, cleaning streets and vacant lots, and clearing snow and ice. The Department operates 59 district garages and manages a fleet of more than 2,000 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms, 705 salt spreaders, and several dozen bike lane operations machines. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 19,000 lane-miles of City streets and removes debris from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets.