



# sanitation

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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[www.nyc.gov/sanitation](http://www.nyc.gov/sanitation)

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### **DSNY Issues ‘Snow Alert’ for Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, beginning at 4 p.m.**

*Alert continues until 7 a.m. Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>*

The New York City Department of Sanitation has issued a Snow Alert for Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4 p.m. The alert is in effect through all of Saturday and into Sunday morning. A Snow Alert is the Department’s “higher-level” winter weather message, as opposed to the “lower-level” Winter Operations Advisory.

Based on current forecasts, scattered snow showers may start as early as 3 a.m., and the Department expects more sustained snowfall beginning Friday afternoon, becoming heavy at times overnight, and continuing as late as Saturday evening with scattered flurries possible on Sunday. While accumulations may be lower, more than a foot of snow is certainly possible given the current size and track of the weather event. All winter weather information and information about the City’s response to the storm can be found by visiting the City’s Severe Weather website at [www.nyc.gov/severeweather](http://www.nyc.gov/severeweather) or by calling 311.

In a Snow Alert, the Department coordinates with NYC Emergency Management and the Department of Transportation on snow clearing protocol in accordance with each agency’s written snow plan. All relevant city agencies have been notified of the Snow Alert.

### **Operations Update**

The Department is preparing for the likelihood of a plowable snowfall, and its Workers and equipment are prepared. Salt spreaders are filled and ready to go and will start pretreating roadways ahead of the snowfall as early as Friday morning. The forecast indicates that this is an appropriate event for the use of brine, and the Department is placing this liquid pretreatment on roadways Thursday and Friday. Additionally, the Department’s collection trucks will be turned into snow plows, ready to plow once two inches of snow has fallen, and chains will be placed on tires for added traction. The Department has more than 2,000 total vehicles equipped with plows, including salt spreaders. The Department has more than 280,000 tons of salt on hand.

The Department’s Special Waste Drop-off Sites, which are normally open on the last Friday of each month and every Saturday, will operate as normal on Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. They will be closed on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Trash/Recycling Collection:**

The Sanitation Workers who collect trash and recycling are the same Sanitation Workers who plow and salt the streets, therefore trash and recycling collection will be delayed during snow removal operations. While residents may put material out at the curb following their normal schedule, snow operations take priority and collection delays are to be expected. The Department will return to collection operations as soon as operations allow. We thank residents for their patience as we work to clear the streets.

**Alternate Side Parking**

Alternate Side Parking regulations are in effect for Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Parking meters will remain in effect.

**Guidance for Open Restaurants**

Open Restaurants roadway dining may operate as normal during this snow event if the business owner deems it is safe to do so. To prevent damage from the weight of snow, restaurants should remove the tops of structures if possible or regularly clear snow off, without putting it back into the street. Restaurant owners may find additional information to prepare their spaces for snow at <https://www1.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/pedestrians/openrestaurants.shtml>.

**Protected Bike Lanes**

The City takes the safe passage of our bicycle facilities seriously, especially for the essential workers who need to be out in any weather. While the Department's initial focus during an active snow event is to keep our roadways clear for emergency vehicles to ensure New Yorkers never lose access to critical medical, fire and police services, plowing and salting of bike lanes will begin after the emergency roadway work is underway. Protected bike lanes will be pretreated with brine and cleared as quickly as possible. If this storm reaches higher-end predictions of 12 inches or more, this may take several days. Property owners may not to move snow from sidewalks into bike lanes.

**Snow Clearing Information**

As a reminder, property owners, including restaurants with outdoor dining structures, may NOT push snow into the street, including bike lanes. This impedes snow clearing operations and is illegal. Snow may be moved against the building, to the curb line, or areas on private property. Sidewalks should be passable for all pedestrians, including a minimum 4-foot clear path, where possible.

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](http://www.nyc.gov) or follow [@NotifyNYC](https://twitter.com/NotifyNYC) on Twitter.

Find information on Sanitation snow operations along with residents' responsibilities during and after snow at [nyc.gov/snow](http://nyc.gov/snow).

**About the New York City Department of Sanitation**

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City healthy, safe and clean 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 and 705 salt spreaders. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 6,500 miles of City streets and removes debris from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets.