

# NEWS RELEASE

**DATE:** December 29, 2003

**TOPIC:** SNOW REMOVAL PLAN

**CONTACT:** PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
BILL BARRIER, TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR 296-5401

**FOR RELEASE:** IMMEDIATELY

With the onset of winter weather, the City of The Dalles Public Works Department will be plowing snow and sanding streets in accordance with The Dalles Snow Removal Plan adopted in 1988 by the City Council.

The plan calls for snow plowing to begin when the snow depth reaches six inches or more in the streets. However, plows may be sent out when the slush exceeds four inches. Under normal conditions the work crews begin plowing at midnight, but this can vary under extreme conditions. The arterial streets and hospital routes are the first to be cleared, with crews proceeding next to steep bus routes and the central business district. The most heavily used residential feeder streets are the next priority, followed by other designated residential streets.

Using all of the City's snow removal equipment and the entire street crew on overtime, several days may be needed to clear all of the streets. During a heavy, continuous snowfall, the highest priority streets might need to be re-plowed before other streets receive attention.

During snow plowing operations, the Department receives complaints about plowed-in driveways. We apologize for this inconvenience and ask for patience and assistance with this problem. Crews cannot plow the 70 miles of City streets quickly if they must also clear over 4,000 driveways. For help in removing snow from driveways and sidewalks, local contractors can be found in the Yellow Pages or through their advertising. Many of them offer discounts to senior citizens or the disabled. Some volunteer organizations offer assistance. Neighbors helping neighbors is also encouraged.

For questions regarding the Snow Removal Policy, please contact the Public Works Office at 296-5401, extension 0, between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm.