



Good afternoon Sterling,

The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning for Loudoun beginning tonight at 7 pm. Please take adequate measures to stay safe during this upcoming winter storm. I'm passing along a County news release with *Four Important Things to Know* and a *Winter Weather Tips & FAQ* handout created by our office. I encourage you to take a look at each of these and to stay off the roads by 7 pm. As always, do not hesitate to reach out to our office if you encounter any problems.

Sincerely,

Koran T. Saines  
Sterling District Supervisor

**News Release:**  
**Four Things to Know Ahead of the Winter Storm in Loudoun**

Loudoun County encourages members of the community to take steps

to prepare for the impact of a forecasted winter weather event. Here are four things for every resident to know ahead of the snow storm.

### **1. Know the Forecast**

- The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning for Loudoun County and the region in effect from 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 13, 2017, through 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, 2017. Snow accumulations ranging from 6 to 12 inches are in the forecast. Get updated weather information online from the National Weather Service at [www.weather.gov/lwx](http://www.weather.gov/lwx), Facebook, or Twitter.

### **2. Know About Road Safety and Snow Removal Efforts**

- Don't Crowd the Plow: The Virginia Department of Transportation urges motorists to stay off the roads during the winter storm. Track snow removal efforts and get real-time traffic information by visiting [www.virginiadot.org](http://www.virginiadot.org). Follow VDOT on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Call VDOT for more information at 1-800-FOR-ROAD.
- If you have to travel on snow-covered roads, be sure to review driving safety and preparedness tips from the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office before heading out on the road.
- Who Plows Your Road? Loudoun County has a new interactive online tool to help residents determine who is responsible for the maintenance of their roads. Learn more at [www.loudoun.gov/roads](http://www.loudoun.gov/roads).

### **3. Know How to Be Prepared**

- Know Your Utility Contact Information: Heavy snow may cause power outages due to the weight of the snow on tree limbs and power lines. Loudoun County emergency management officials

suggest that you take time to charge cell phones and other electronics ahead of the inclement weather. If you need to report outages, make sure you have contact information for local utilities, which is posted at [www.loudoun.gov/winter](http://www.loudoun.gov/winter).

- Make a Plan and Build an Emergency Kit: Every family is encouraged to review family emergency plans and have an emergency supply kit with items such as flashlights and batteries, battery-operated radio, water, first aid supplies, canned food and can opener, etc. Learn more about emergency preparedness at [www.loudoun.gov/ready](http://www.loudoun.gov/ready).

#### 4. Know How to Stay Informed

- Loudoun County's Winter Weather web page at [www.loudoun.gov/winter](http://www.loudoun.gov/winter) provides a full range of links to helpful resources, including links to VDOT, local utilities and more.
- Sign up for [Alert Loudoun](#) to receive a broad range of information from the Loudoun County Government.
- Follow Loudoun County Government on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Find out about Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) operational status at [www.lcps.org](http://www.lcps.org) or via the LCPS [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



## Office of Supervisor Saines

### Winter Weather Tips &

### Answers to Frequently Asked Questions



#### When do I need to clear my sidewalks?

- Within SIX hours of storm ending.
- Before Noon when storm ends over night.
- Before Noon on Monday when storm ends any time on a Sunday.
- Disabled/Residents 65 years+ must only make reasonable efforts to clear (**Please offer to help our elderly and disabled neighbors!**)
- When Loudoun County Government is closed, residents shall have an additional 48 hours.<sup>1</sup>

#### Clearing Snow Is Hard Work!

- **Avoid injury and over exertion, pace yourself and take frequent breaks.**
- **Stay hydrated by drinking water.**
- **Take cold temperatures seriously and dress appropriately.**
- **Most importantly be careful and help your neighbors by working together!**

## Top 5 Snow Removal Questions

#### 1. When will roads be cleared?

VDOT's goal is to make all **state-maintained roads** passable within **48 hours** after a winter storm ends. Residents can check the plowing status of their neighborhoods at: <http://www.vdotplows.org>.

#### 2. How does VDOT decide which roads to clear first?

VDOT follows a very specific plan with each winter storm. Its road-clearing priorities are:

**FIRST:** Interstates and most primary roads

**SECOND:** Snow emergency routes and heavily-trafficked roads

**THIRD:** Other secondary roads and residential streets



#### 3. Which roads is VDOT responsible for clearing?

VDOT is responsible for clearing all state-maintained roads in Loudoun County.

#### 4. Who is responsible for clearing my sidewalk?

Residents must clear their own sidewalks.

#### 5. Why do plows leave snow in my driveway?

With heavy snow, plowing can cause snow to accumulate in roadside gutters and on road shoulders — sometimes even blocking driveways. When this occurs, VDOT asks that you shovel snow to the right of your driveway as you face the road. This is to prevent snow from piling up again if your road is re-plowed.<sup>2</sup>

VDOT Trucks are pre-positioned in subdivisions **when 2+ inches of snow is forecasted**. Each subdivision has at least one dedicated truck.<sup>3</sup>

**More winter weather tips & emergency numbers available at: [www.loudoun.gov/winter](http://www.loudoun.gov/winter)**

1. Loudoun County Codified Ordinance 1022.01 Removal of Snow and Ice.
2. [http://virginiadot.org/travel/top\\_5\\_snow\\_removal\\_questions.asp](http://virginiadot.org/travel/top_5_snow_removal_questions.asp)
3. [http://www.virginiadot.org/about/resources/nova\\_snow/snow\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.virginiadot.org/about/resources/nova_snow/snow_fact_sheet.pdf)

**Find out who is responsible for maintaining your road at: [www.loudoun.gov/roads](http://www.loudoun.gov/roads)**

Supervisor Koran T. Saines  
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

[www.loudoun.gov/Sterling](http://www.loudoun.gov/Sterling)

703-777-0204

See what's happening on our social sites



Sterling District,  
1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor, Leesburg, VA 20177

[About our service provider](#)

Sent by [koran.saines@loudoun.gov](mailto:koran.saines@loudoun.gov) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact** 

Try it free today