

## **Levels of snow and ice operations**

1. **Incidental** salt trucks are dispatched as needed for water main breaks, fire response, water runoff and refreeze and isolated problem areas.
2. **Bridge Run** - 18 salt trucks address bridge decks and other known areas of potential frost or early icing across the City. Salting all bridges, overpasses and some crown blacktop roads takes 2 to 3 hours.
3. **General Ice Control (GIC)** - 90 salt trucks citywide. This amount of equipment can salt all main streets within 2-3 hours and all residential streets within 6-8 hours. About 80% of this fleet is currently equipped with underbody plows and can salt and plow at the same time. This allows for keeping the main streets open throughout a salting and/or plowing operation.
4. **Limited Plowing** – 96 salt trucks citywide plus up to 12 private salt trucks to plow the entire city. This has become the most common practice for plowing snow depths up to 6 inches and generally takes 24 to 36 hours after snow stops falling to complete. Since refuse packers are not used, collection services are normally not impacted.
5. **Full Scale Plowing** – Nearly 320 pieces of snow equipment (including up to 50 private trucks and end loaders) are utilized to remove snow from all city streets. The initial plowing usually takes up to 18 hours after snow stops falling to complete. Specialized equipment for cul-de-sacs, boulevards and sidewalks is mobilized after the initial plowing is complete.
6. A **Snow Emergency** may be declared by the Commissioner of Public Works to assist in snow removal. During snow emergencies, parking restrictions are in effect to aid in the efficient removal of snow from arterials. This is normally enacted when snow in excess of 10 inches falls or when wind combines with snowfall to produce blizzard conditions.

**Every snow and ice operation is a unique event. Factors of temperature, dew point, intensity of snowfall, wind speed and direction, can all modify the response to a snow & ice event.**