

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

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DIRECTOR**



ADMINISTRATION

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Public Works Prepares for Winter Storm

Whatcom County Public Works and the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management are preparing for this weekend's winter storm. Regional coordination is underway, plows and sanders are readied, and crews are lined up to go to work. We are on the road now sanding existing trouble spots and applying anti-icing agent. Equipment is being pre-deployed to Point Roberts, Strandel, and other locations. Sand and salt bunkers are topped off. Chainsaws are sharp. A general overview of our response plan:

- 3:00 AM Friday morning - 4 sanders with plows out on the road treating bus routes
- 7:30 AM Friday morning - 10 sanders with plows ready for call out
- 9:00 AM Friday morning - check in with weather network
- 10:00 AM Friday morning - make call to go to 12 hour shifts
- Ramp up snow response as necessary
- Be ready to shift crews to wind storm response Saturday morning

Please note that plans will change according to conditions. Snow plow priorities are (1) emergency response routes, (2) bus routes and main arterials, (3) secondary roads. In a major snow storm, especially with high winds, we are unlikely to get to priority 3 roads until Sunday. So...

Get your groceries, medicines, and other necessities in advance of the weekend.

Keep clear of power lines and wind-blown trees.

Stay home and stay safe – don't put your emergency responders at risk!

For more information please visit Whatcom County's Maintenance and Operations webpage:

<http://www.whatcomcounty.us/578/Maintenance-Operations>

or call:

360-778-6400

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