

Saratoga County D.P.W.



Snow Plow Safety Tips

Nov 2, 2018 Winter Maintenance

**THE SNOW PLOWS
ARE READY! Now,
we need your help...**

Saratoga County DPW crews are trained and ready to respond to winter storms, and motorists can do a lot to help keep both you and our drivers safe. Please review the information, below, to learn how.

DON'T

Trucks release salt and sand from the back of the truck - if you're too close to the truck, materials could hit your windshield & obstruct visibility.

BLIND SPOT

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Plow trucks travel between 25-35 MPH
Allow enough time & space to safely stop/slow down.

Crowd the Plow!

X **NEVER PASS Plow on the RIGHT**
Plows push snow to right shoulder & may use a wing (often 6-8 feet long) which is difficult to see.

Don't assume the plow driver can see your vehicle. **The driver's field of vision is limited**
You may see them, but they may not see you.

✓ **Maintain at least 200-foot distance from plow truck to:**

1. ensure the driver can see you at all times
2. allow time for you to slow down or stop
3. avoid obstructing visibility from material release or cloud of snow

Remember: Plow trucks may need to "back up" at intersections during storm response - make sure to leave them room to do so.

DO NOT CROWD THE PLOW: MAINTAIN SAFE DISTANCE. Snowplows are large and operators cannot see directly behind the truck.

SLOW DOWN WHEN YOU SEE A SNOW PLOW. Snow plows travel at a slower speed; the most common crashes are motorists hitting the rear end of the plow. Stay alert and watch for a plow's green and amber lights.

DO NOT PASS PLOW ON RIGHT. Plows push snow to the right shoulder and many are equipped with a wing plow – a 6-8 foot extension on the right-hand side of the plow. This wing is difficult to see and can do harm to a passing car.

DO NOT PASS IN A SNOW CLOUD. Be sure the road ahead is clear of vehicles or snowdrifts before attempting to pass on the left. A snow cloud could be caused by crosswinds or by a snowplow, so be patient.

REMEMBER: PLOWS DO MORE THAN PLOW. Plow trucks also spread salt and deicing agents may spray your car. Maintain a safe distance between your car and the snowplow and be extremely cautious when passing on the left. Remember - do NOT pass a snow plow on the right.

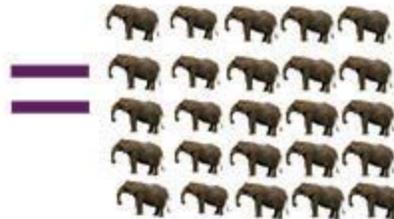
PLAYING OUTSIDE? STAY AWAY FROM THE ROAD!

Play It Safe This Winter!

Snowplow Safety for Children

Did you know?

The weight of
1 plow truck
can equate to
15 elephants!



**MOVE AWAY FROM THE
SIDE OF THE ROAD**

Plows are big and can hide you from the driver's view if you're standing too close to the road. Also, the plow pushes heavy loads of ice and snow onto the side of the road.



WEAR BRIGHT COLORS
to help plow truck drivers
see you better



**PLAY AWAY FROM THE
SIDE OF THE ROAD**

Never tunnel or build forts in snowbanks along the side of the road. Drivers will not be able to see you, and if you're in the tunnel, you could be "snowed in" when a trucks plows next to you.

Always remember, drivers likely do not see you as well as you see their trucks.

Here are some facts and tips to share:

- A snow plow driver often has low visibility during storms or when plowing because snow is constantly flying onto the windshield. This makes it hard for the driver to see anyone along the road

- If you hear “beeps” signaling the truck is backing up, be aware. The driver may not be able to see you in his/her mirrors. Move far away off the road, away from the truck.
- Never tunnel or build forts in the snowbanks along the side of the road. Drivers will not be able to see you, and if you’re in the tunnel, you could be “snowed in” when a trucks plows next to you.
- Plows can throw large chunks of ice into ditches when plowing, these could hurt you pretty badly.
- Garbage cans left in the roadway or in the paved shoulder can be come projectiles. Place your garbage can in your driveway 4’ from the white line.

• Share

(Link to Safety Video) <https://youtu.be/eCbY2ZVj1W8>