



Fast Facts – Snowplow Safety

- ✦ Blading snow off the road creates a “mini blizzard” next to and behind the snowplow, especially in windy conditions. This is referred to as the SNOW ZONE.
- ✦ It can be difficult to see snow removal equipment within the Snow Zone. Watch for the black and yellow checkerboard, wind scoop and flashing amber and red lights – called wig wag lights – on the rear of the snowplow truck.
- ✦ When you encounter a snowplow on the highway, your visibility may be limited. Slow down and drive with caution.
- ✦ Snowplows must travel slower than regular traffic when pushing snow and spreading salt and sand. Maintain a safe distance, be patient and give the snow plow operator room to do his/her job. Snowplows may be travelling at speeds as slow as 30-40 km when spreading salt.
- ✦ Snowplows pull over about every 10 km to allow motorists to pass, so take your time, wait and be safe.
- ✦ Snowplows stop at all railway crossings to ensure it is safe to cross and that the plow blade will clear the track.
- ✦ Snowplow operators are often out in treacherous conditions to make the highways as safe as possible for you – not to get in your way.
- ✦ Our dedicated operators will do their best to keep the highways clear and safe. It is up to you to be cautious and drive safely in the Snow Zone.
- ✦ Every winter, snowplows are hit by motorists that don't see them, or see them too late. The vast majority of these accidents are rear collision incidents where motorists have not driven with caution in the snow zone.