

***STAY BACK,
STAY SAFE.***



Fast Facts – Snow Plow Safety

- Blading snow off the road creates a “mini blizzard” next to and behind the snow plow, 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 snow plow truck.
- When you encounter a snow plow on the highway, your visibility may be limited. Slow down and drive with caution.
- New legislation requires that motorists slow to 60 km when passing a snow plow with lights flashing whether the snow plow is in operation or pulled over to the side of the road.
- Snow plows 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. Snow plows may be travelling at speeds as slow as 30 km when spreading salt.
- Snow plows pull over about every 10 km to allow motorists to pass, so take your time, wait and be safe.
- Snow plows stop at all railway crossings to ensure it is safe to cross and that the plow blade will clear the track.
- Snow plow operators are often out in treacherous conditions to make the highways as safe as possible for you – not to get in your way. It is up to you to be cautious and drive safely in the Snow Zone.
- Every winter, snow plows are hit by motorists that don’t see them or see them too late. The vast majority of these accidents are rear-end collision incidents where motorists have not driven with caution in the snow zone.