

SNOW HEROES CHALLENGE SAFETY GUIDELINES

The City of Edmonton's Assisted Snow Removal Program believes keeping our city safe during Winter is a shared responsibility. Teachers and school authorities must review these Safety Guidelines before participating in any activities related to the Snow Heroes Challenge.

Challenge rules:

1. You can shovel your sidewalk or a neighbour's. If you want to shovel your neighbour's driveway or footpath, get permission first!
2. You can shovel the same neighbour's house multiple times throughout the season.
3. **Elementary students:** Once you've completed five houses, let your teacher know to collect a button. Collect all four buttons for twenty snow removal clearings during the season!
4. **Junior and high school students:** Make sure to mark the number of houses in the goal thermometer placed in your school; ask your teacher if you don't know where to find it.

Getting ready for the Snow Shovelling Heroes Challenge

- Edmonton's weather can get cold, so bundle up on those chillier days! Wear a toque, gloves or mittens, boots, and snow pants.
- It's best not to go alone! Bring a parent, sibling, or friend to share in the fun!
- Always be aware of your surroundings. Don't shovel close to the road with your back to the cars.
- Watch for ice! You could easily slip and fall.
- Wear sturdy footwear appropriate to the task (for your safety, open-toe shoes are not permitted)
- Be sure to stay hydrated.
- Have a plan for emergencies that could arise and ensure that you have a means of communication to ensure someone knows where you are (such as a charged cell phone or work with a partner)
- Do not pick up items from the floor with your bare hands. If you need help, tell an adult.

During your snow removal:

Be aware of your surroundings:

- Inspect the area where you will be shovelling and be aware of potential hazards (e.g., pets, moving vehicles, tripping hazards, sharp objects).
- Do not walk on roads, windrows, steep hills, embankments, heavily treed areas, or uneven ground.

- Do not step or stand in frozen water bodies.
- Observe the people and animals present in the area.
- Only remove snow during daylight hours.
- Do not trespass on private property. If you clear your neighbour's driveways or other areas, ask for their permission first.
- Do not shovel snow onto streets or alleys.
- Shovel smarter, not harder. Freshly fallen snow is easier to shovel than hard-packed snow.
- Ice removal is not part of the challenge.
- Do not pick up heavy or oversized items.

If you come across the following items, do not touch them and report to 311:

- Sharp items, including needles and broken glass
- Syringes or other drug paraphernalia
- Hazardous waste (e.g. oil, chemicals)
- Suspicious items (e.g. backpacks, sealed boxes)
- Heavy and oversized items (e.g. furniture)
- Encampments

Take the appropriate action based on your situation.

Call 911:

- If you are experiencing a medical emergency
- If you become seriously injured
- If you find yourself in a dangerous situation

Call 811:

- If you are feeling faint or dizzy
- If you are experiencing symptoms of illness
- If you have sustained a minor injury like a cut or muscle sprain

Live Chat Online, Text (INFO) **OR** Call 211:

- If you or someone you encounter is experiencing challenges as a result of poverty, violence, and/or mental illness and requires social support assistance

After your snow removal

- Ensure you take all the snow removal equipment, including shovels and other materials.
- Do not leave snow in windrows on sidewalks or in front of driveways.
- Do not place snow on trees or other structures in the homes.
- If you have any questions about snow removal, contact 311 with the location.

You are responsible for supporting your community's snow removal in a safe and responsible manner. If you have questions, email assistedsnowremoval@edmonton.ca for additional information.

Thank you for helping keep our city safe during winter. Have fun!