

Slippery Rock University Snow Removal Overview

Snow removal season can last from October to May. Slippery Rock University has approximately 13 miles of sidewalks, 20 miles of roads, 40+ acres of parking lots and over 1000 steps that need to be cleared during a typical snow event. Custodial and Grounds staff are the primary responsible parties for performing snow removal activities and are considered essential personnel by the University.

Custodial staff are responsible for clearing and maintaining building entrances and up to 20' of sidewalks from the building entrances. Custodians report to campus at 6am.

Harrisville has one semi-skilled laborer assigned to perform all snow removal activities outside of the building (entrances, sidewalks and parking lot).

Grounds staff are responsible for plowing the sidewalks, roads and parking lots, and shoveling steps and ADA curb cuts and ramps. Grounds staff report to campus at 5am, if the projected snow fall is less than 3". If greater than 3", Grounds staff will report at 4am. Activities on campus after hours and whether classes are in session may adjust how snow removal is performed.

Grounds staff have 6 plow truck routes (streets and parking lots) and 5 tractor routes (sidewalks). The remaining staff focus on hand shoveling steps, ADA curb cuts and ramps, and sidewalks that are too narrow for tractors. Trucks and tractors are equipped to clear snow and to spread snow/ice melting products.

- Truck Routes:

- Route 1 - President's Residence, Wally Rose Field, Campus Drive, Morrow Way, McKay Parking Lot, portions of Maltby Ave
- Route 2 - Weisenfluh Parking Lot, Alumni Parking Lot, Art I, Resident Parking Area
- Route 3 - Central Loop, Fieldhouse Rd, Rock Pride Drive, Smith Center Bookstore Parking, Stadium Drive, North Road, Founders Way, Green & White Way, etc.
- Route 4 - MFH, Spotts, Swope, etc.
- Route 5 - Commuter Lot-West Lake, Stadium lot, Field Hockey Lot, Intramural Lot, Equestrian, Softball, Macoskey Center.
- Route 6 - East Lake Lot, ARC, CSC, Upper Stadium Lot, Commuter Lot by Boozel, etc.
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- Tractor Routes:

- Route 1 - Quad Area, around ATSH, along Central Loop, etc.
- Route 2 - Lower Campus around Boozel, Commuter Lot, Residence Suites, Apartments, etc.
- Route 3 - Lower Campus around Swope, CSC, ARC, walking trails, outer perimeter, etc.

- Route 4 - Upper Campus around Strain, Weisenfluh, Art I, Rhoads, North Side MFH, Patterson, Smith Center
- Route 5 - Upper Campus around Stoner, Alumni House, North Hall, Maltby, Old Main, Miller, McKay, Etc.

Each route for trucks and tractors is designed to take approximately three hours to clear.

Snow Removal Priorities

Trucks focus on clearing campus main roads and parking lots that have been designated as snow lots (no overnight parking). ADA parking spaces in these areas are cleared. Trucks will then move to clear the remaining parking lots to facilitate arrival of commuter students, staff and faculty. Once a route is complete, if it is still snowing, the driver will repeat their route and continue to do so until it stops snowing.

Tractors leave the Maintenance Center and clear sidewalks on the way to their routes. Tractors focus on clearing sidewalks to facilitate travel between essential campus facilities including Housing, Dining Halls, Library, Student Health Center, Student Recreation Center, and the Student Center. Tractors will clear ADA curb cuts and ramps that they can access and then focus on any remaining sidewalks on their routes that need to be cleared. Once a route is complete, if it is still snowing, the driver will repeat their route and continue to do so until it stops snowing.

Shovelers focus on clearing steps and cleaning up ADA curb cuts, ADA ramps and ADA parking spaces that may not have been fully cleared by trucks and tractors. They also clear any remaining areas which are beyond custodial responsibilities and that tractors cannot reach. They will start shoveling around essential facilities and move towards non-essential areas. Throughout a snow event they will continue to monitor their assigned areas.

Unsafe Conditions

During normal working hours (M-F 8:00am-4:00pm) if you encounter an unsafe condition on campus, please contact the Facilities and Planning work order line, x2678. After hours, please contact the University Police at x3333. Staff will respond as soon as they can. After hours it may take time to get staff to campus.

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