



TOWN OF
COMOX



Snow Angels Pilot Program

For Residential Public Sidewalks

SNOW ANGEL INFORMATION PACKAGE

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Tel: 250-339-5410

Email: publicworks@comox.ca

Address:

1390 Guthrie Road

Comox, B.C. V9M 0A5

We respectfully acknowledge that we gather and work on the unceded traditional territory of the K'òmoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

Program Overview

The *Snow Angels* program attempts to match a *Snow Angel* with an address where the resident needs help clearing snow from the public sidewalks that are adjacent to their property. This program does not include private walkways or driveways. The program runs from November 1 through April 15 of the subsequent year.

Job Description

A *Snow Angel* clears snow from the public sidewalks that are adjacent to an assigned residential address by 10 a.m. on any day following a snowfall event during the snow season of November 1st through April 15th.

Personal Requirements

- A Town of Comox resident
- Minimum 16 years of age or you must have an adult with you
- In adequate physical shape and capable of clearing snow
- Comfortable working outdoors in cold and wet weather
- Value respect and diversity

Training / Equipment

- Prior to submitting a *Snow Angel Application* form, new and returning Snow Angels must:
 - read this *Snow Angel Information Package* and,
 - watch the *Easy Snow Shoveling Techniques* video on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hX6uaTivlcQ>
- If needed, Public Works can provide a shovel and ice melt to the Snow Angel.

Location of Snow Angel Activity

- The Town will assign an address that is as close as possible to the Snow Angel's address.

General Information

Attendance

- If you are unable to complete your assigned sidewalk clearing on a given day, please contact Public Works as soon as possible, with your explanation. If there are too many missed sidewalk clearing assignments, you may be removed from the program.

Responsibility

- A *Snow Angel* is responsible for the public sidewalks they are assigned (and agree to) and will clear them by 10 a.m. on any day following a snowfall.
 - You may choose not to clear if the snow melt is expected within 24 hours or if there has just been a light dusting of snow.
 - Private walkways and driveway clearing are not included in this program.
- Residents have been vetted by Town Staff prior to their address being assigned to a *Snow Angel*. These residents are relying on the Snow Angels to complete the sidewalk clearing on their behalf however, snow clearing is still the responsibility of the resident and as per Sub-Section 4.4(a) of the Town's *Street and Traffic Bylaw No. 1358*, the owner or occupier of any parcel of real property shall, not later than 10:00 a.m. every day, remove snow and ice from any sidewalk adjacent to such parcel for a distance that coincides with the parcel's property line and for the full width of the sidewalk or fines may be levied against them. Your commitment as a Snow Angel provides assistance to these residents and thereby provides a safer environment for all sidewalk users in the community.

Snow Angel Policies

Tips & Gifts

- Snow Angels are providing a service with no expectation of compensation of any kind. Please do not enter onto private property or approach a resident at any time.
- If the resident requests additional snow clearing services outside of this public sidewalk *Snow Angels* program, you may choose to assist, however, any work performed beyond the public sidewalk clearing is not covered by this program and the Town will have no involvement or responsibility in any additional work a Snow Angel chooses to undertake.

Speaking on behalf of the Town of Comox

- Snow Angels are not permitted to speak on behalf of the Town of Comox. Please direct all media and other inquiries to Public Works.

Harassment

- Unintended or intended verbal, visual or physical behaviour that creates an uncomfortable or hostile environment for residents or Snow Angels will not be tolerated or condoned by the Town. Please report this to Public Works.

What to do if ...?

- I have an illness.
Please stay home and contact Public Works as soon as possible.
- I cannot be there (just this once), or I am going on a vacation and won't be available for a defined period of time.
Please advise Public Works as much in advance as possible.
- I showed up to my assignment and no one was there.
No contact is to be made with the resident therefore, they do not need to be at home in order for you to clear the public sidewalk.

Shovelling Tips

before you shovel:

- avoid large meals
- avoid caffeine/nicotine
- drink plenty of water
- dress warmly and in layers
- wear high-visibility clothing
- wear proper footwear
- pack a snack and water
- warm up and stretch

while you shovel:

- take your time – especially with wet, heavy snow – take breaks
- always look at what you are shoveling – watch for underlying ice beneath the snow
- push, don't lift - use your legs, not your back – avoid twisting
- walk to dump the snow rather than throwing it a far distance - avoid tossing snow farther than 1 m and avoid piling snow higher than 1 m
- DO NOT TOSS SNOW ONTO THE ROAD as this creates a traffic hazard and interferes with drainage of melting snow.

Application Process

Complete the *Snow Angel Application* form. If you need assistance, please contact us:

Email: publicworks@comox.ca

Phone: 250-339-5410

Snow Angels program materials can be found at comox.ca/snowangels