

Winter Accessibility Tip Sheet

As winter approaches in the County of Perth, it becomes more difficult for people with disabilities to make their way around our communities. After a heavy snowfall, some people are housebound as they are unable to get through the snow in their wheelchairs or scooters, or it can be too slippery for someone who uses a walker or a cane. There are things that we can do to help clear the way so that the barriers are reduced and the environment is safer for everyone.

Here are a few:



Sidewalks should be shoveled as soon as possible after a big snowfall, and sand or a pet-safe de-icer should

be sprinkled onto icy areas to help prevent slips and falls.



Clearing the snow off your vehicle is not only law, but will ensure that you will be able to see properly when

navigating local streets. People in wheelchairs are not always as visible to drivers as a wheelchair is typically closer to the ground than a pedestrian.



Vehicles blocking the sidewalk force some people with disabilities out onto the

road temporarily, which is a safety concern.



Carpets inside doorways help to capture snow and ice off people's boots and help to reduce slips and falls.

Just make sure that the carpets are secure with a rubber backing or double-sided tape.



Be a good neighbour. Check in on your neighbors who might be housebound after a big storm.

Perth County has a higher percentage of seniors than the Provincial average, and we need to be mindful that with aging often comes hearing, visual, physical or cognitive decline. Sometimes we just need a bit of patience as seniors park their cars, or get their change purse out in a shop, or when they ask us to speak a bit louder.

Alternate formats of this document are available, upon request.

Contact accessibility@perthcounty.ca