City of Spokane

2015-16 SNOW RESPONSE PLAN

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2015-16 SNOW RESPONSE PLAN

OVERVIEW

The City of Spokane's Street Department is the primary responder during snow events. Using truck plows, graders, sanders, de-icers, and other equipment, the Department is responsible for snow removal and de-icing activities within the City.

Our goals include: improving safety for the traveling public, ensuring that emergency responders can reach our citizens, and keeping people and commerce moving through our community. This Snow Response Plan is designed to guide our operations and priorities during these events.

WHAT IS A SNOW EVENT?

The snow season is defined as November 15th to March 15th. A Snow Event may be called at any time during these four months.

Snow Events:

Stage 1: Will be declared when there is 2 inches of snow on the ground and 4 inches or more are anticipated during the current snow event.

Stage 2: Will be declared when there is 6 inches of snow on the ground with more anticipated during the current snow event.

A Snow Event declaration activates:

- Snow removal activities.
- Parking restrictions.
- Public notification.

SNOW REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

When a snow event is declared, the City will change its snow removal operations to respond to conditions according to the following guidelines. During these events, Street Department crews will be augmented with equipment and crews from the City's Water and Wastewater departments. During Stage 2 Snow Events, the City may utilize private contract crews to further expand snow removal efforts.

Stage 1: The City will remove snow from all arterials, STA fixed bus routes, hospital districts, outlying access routes, and residential hill routes.

Neighborhood Business Centers (NBCs) will be plowed to the curb.

The Central Business District (CBD) is part of Stage 1 efforts. Use of chemical de-icer is preferred for snow removal in the CBD. When these efforts are not effective because of temperature or amount of snow, snow will be bermed to the center of the streets. If weather persists for an extended period of time and natural melting of the berm is not attained in a reasonable timeframe, loading and hauling of the snow may be undertaken.

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Stage 2: Snow removal efforts will expand to all of the City's residential streets. The City is divided into 18 residential plow routes, including Residential hill routes and Browne's Addition. Cul-de-sacs are plowed as a separate route with a crew consisting of a front end loader and truck plow. All routes will be plowed during a Stage 2 event. A full plowing of the City takes approximately 4 days, depending on snow depth, moisture content, equipment availability and weather conditions.

Snow Corridor Plan: When the snow fall rate is so high that City crews cannot effectively plow all **Major Arterial Routes**, the City will enact the **Snow Corridor Plan**. The City has identified several corridors that motorists can depend on. They are:

North-south:

- **Maple/Ash.** I-90 to the north City limits.
- **Cedar/High Drive/Hatch.** I-90 to SR-195
- **Division/Newport Hy.** I-90 to the north City limits.
- **Bernard/Grand.** 3rd Ave. to High Drive.
- **Hamilton/Nevada.** Trent to the north City limits.
- **Freya/Greene/Market.** I-90 to the north City limits.
- **Freya/Thor/Ray/Regal.** I-90 to 57th Ave.

East-west:

- **Francis/Nine Mile.** West City limits on Nine Mile Road to Havana St.
- **Wellesley Avenue.** Assembly St. to Freya St.
- **Mission/Maxwell/Trent.** Ash to east City limits.
- **Hwy-2/Sunset Blvd./ Second and Third Avenues.** West City Limits to East City Limits.
- **29th Avenue.** High Dr. to Havana St.
- **37th Avenue.** Bernard St. to the east City limits.

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PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Stage 1: During a Stage 1 Snow Event, vehicles along all arterials (major and secondary), STA fixed bus routes, and outlying access routes must moved off the street. Parking along streets within residential hill routes will be on odd-numbered side in odd seasons (2015-16) and even-numbered sides of the street in even seasons (2016-17). Drivers/owners will be given 6 hours to comply. When the snow has stopped, the street has been plowed, and forecasts don't call for 2 inches or more in the next 24 hours, normal parking will be reinstated.

Stage 2: During a Stage 2 Snow Event, parking along residential streets, except for Browne's Addition, will be on odd-numbered side in odd seasons (2015-16) and even-numbered sides of the street in even seasons (2016-17). Drivers/owners will be given 6 hours to comply.

ADDITIONAL PARKING RESTRICTIONS:

Central Business District and Neighborhood Business Districts: During snow events, on-street parking is prohibited between the 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Browne's Addition: Notice will be given 3 to 4 days in advance of plowing, with north/south streets plowed on Day One and east/west streets plowed on Day Two.

Other Rules:

- For residential area plowing, park on the side of the street that coincides with the start of the snow season. For the 2015-16 season, park on the odd side of the street. For the 2016-17 snow season, park on the even side of the street.
- 10-minute residential parking zones will not apply during Stage 2 events when they are on the side of the street where parking is prohibited.
- There is no parking in cul-de-sacs during daylight hours during a Stage 2 snow event.
- Residential boulevard parking is allowed on the right hand side of the street in the direction of travel (on one-way streets) and will remain on that side of the street.
- All vehicles must park within 2 feet of the curb when a snow berm is adjacent to the curb.
- Around schools where parking is prohibited on one side of the street, all parking on both sides of the street will be prohibited during snow events.
- All parked vehicles must be cleaned of snow for visibility within 24 hours of any storm.
- Neighborhood councils should consider identifying locations as neighborhood parking areas/lots if their neighborhoods have limited off-street parking.
- Emphasis patrols will be used to remove abandoned vehicles prior to Nov. 15.
- All other regular parking rules apply during snow events.
- Vehicles may be ticketed and/or towed for failing to comply with parking restrictions.
- Clear sidewalks of snow within 24 hours of the end of the snow event.

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COMMUNICATIONS ACTION PLAN

Prior to the snow season each fall, the City will educate citizens and employees about snow events and the impacts through a variety of communications tools.

All City Entrance signs are supplemented with a sign stating that between November 15th and March 15th a Snow Event may be declared and parking restrictions will be enforced. Snow route maps will be made available on the City's web site, in various media publications, and at a variety of community locations.

When a snow event is declared, the City will notify citizens and employees of conditions through:

- News releases as needed
- The front pages of the City's and the Street Department's web pages. The Street Department will update its electronic snow route maps as each route is completed.
- Metroguide on City Cable 5.
- Available electronic signage.
- The media.
- Other communications tools.

Citizens may sign up to receive electronic updates directly by creating an account at www.spokanecity.org and asking for news updates or, by following us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/SpokaneCity, liking us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SpokaneCity or by The Neighborhood Council program and Neighborhood Business Center program will also be utilized.

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APPENDIX A

Existing Parking Ordinance

Title 16A Motor Vehicles

Chapter 16A.61 Rules of the Road

Section 16A.61.564 Parking Restricted for Snow Removal or Other Street Needs

A. It is unlawful for any person to park or leave parked a vehicle upon any street or highway within the City of Spokane after public notice has been given by the City by way of press, radio, and/or television, or by other notice to the occupants in the neighborhood, that the City intends to remove snow there from.

B. It is unlawful for any person to park or leave parked a vehicle upon any street or highway within the City of Spokane after public notice has been given by the City by way of press, radio, and/or television, or by other notice to the occupants in the neighborhood, that street construction, sweeping, maintenance or repair, building relocations/moves or special permitted events that will take place in the street.

C. A vehicle parked in violation of this section may be impounded and towed away by the City or the City's contractor.

Date Passed: Monday, November 10, 2008

Effective Date: Thursday, January 1, 2009

ORD C34333 Section 5

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Residential Snow Plowing Routes

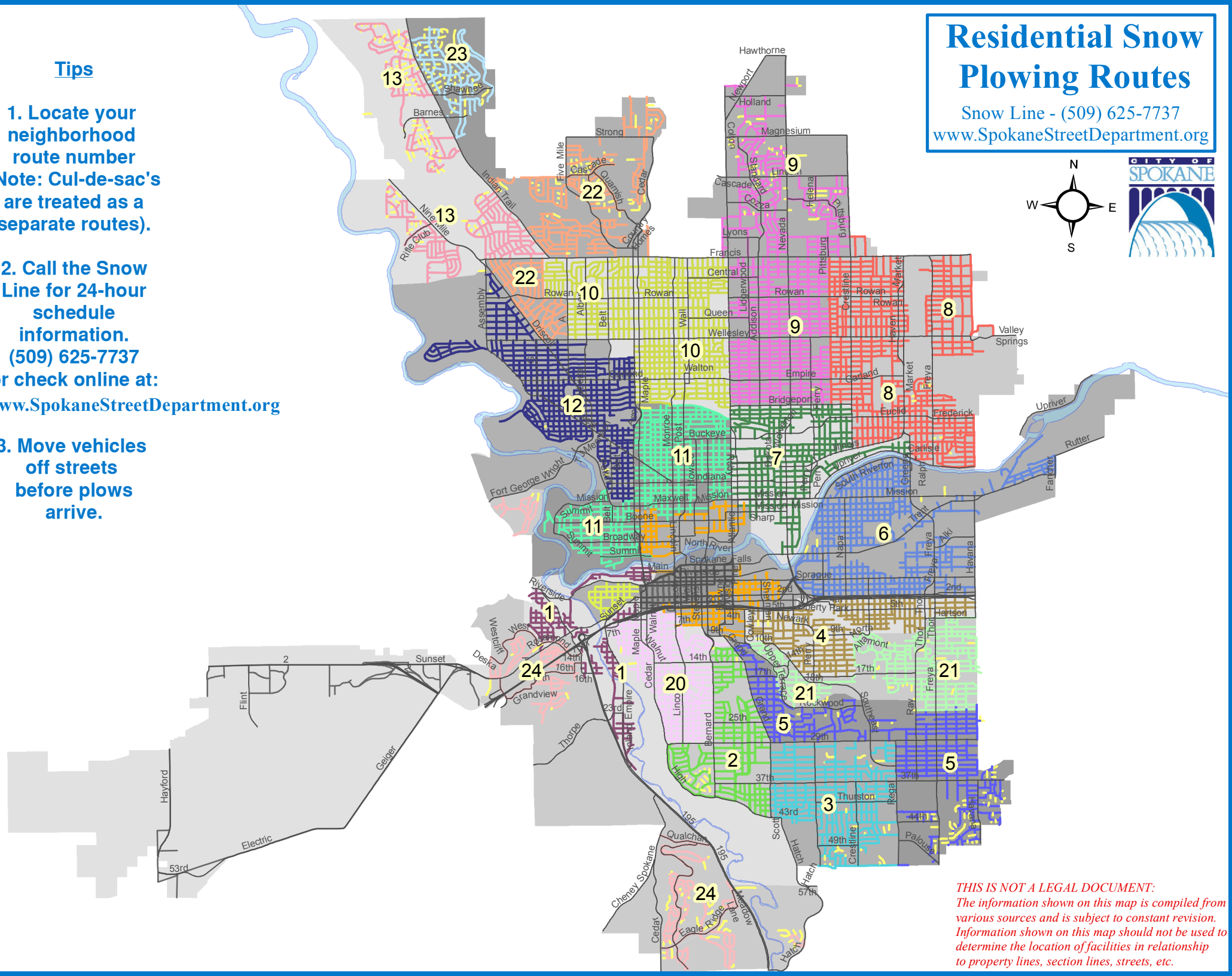
Snow Line - (509) 625-7737
www.SpokaneStreetDepartment.org

Tips

1. Locate your neighborhood route number (Note: Cul-de-sac's are treated as a separate routes).

2. Call the Snow Line for 24-hour schedule information. (509) 625-7737 or check online at: www.SpokaneStreetDepartment.org

3. Move vehicles off streets before plows arrive.



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The information shown on this map is compiled from various sources and is subject to constant revision. Information shown on this map should not be used to determine the location of facilities in relationship to property lines, section lines, streets, etc.

Arterial Snow Plowing Routes

Snow Line - (509) 625-7737
www.SpokaneStreetDepartment.org

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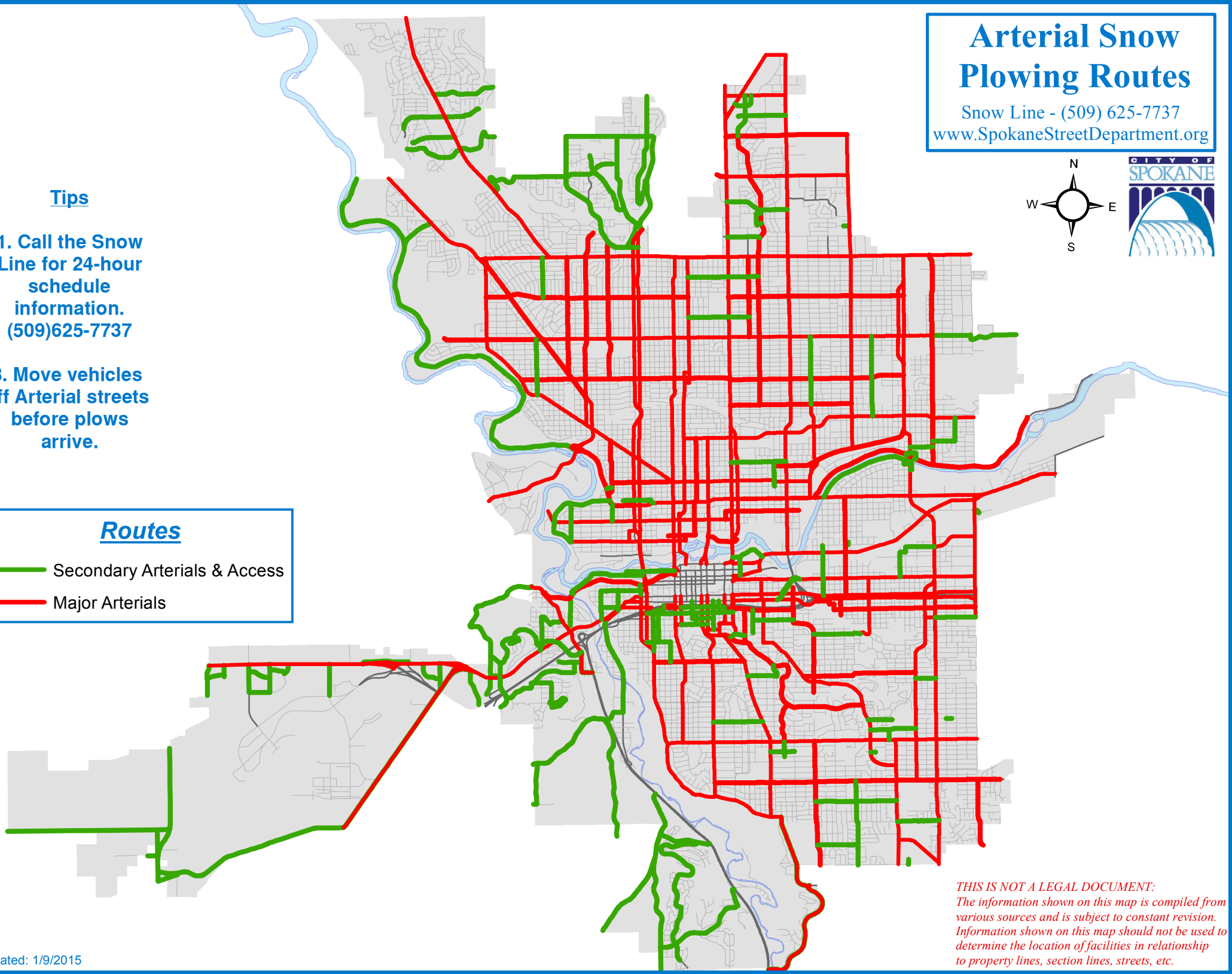
Tips

1. Call the Snow Line for 24-hour schedule information. (509)625-7737

3. Move vehicles off Arterial streets before plows arrive.

Routes

- Secondary Arterials & Access
- Major Arterials



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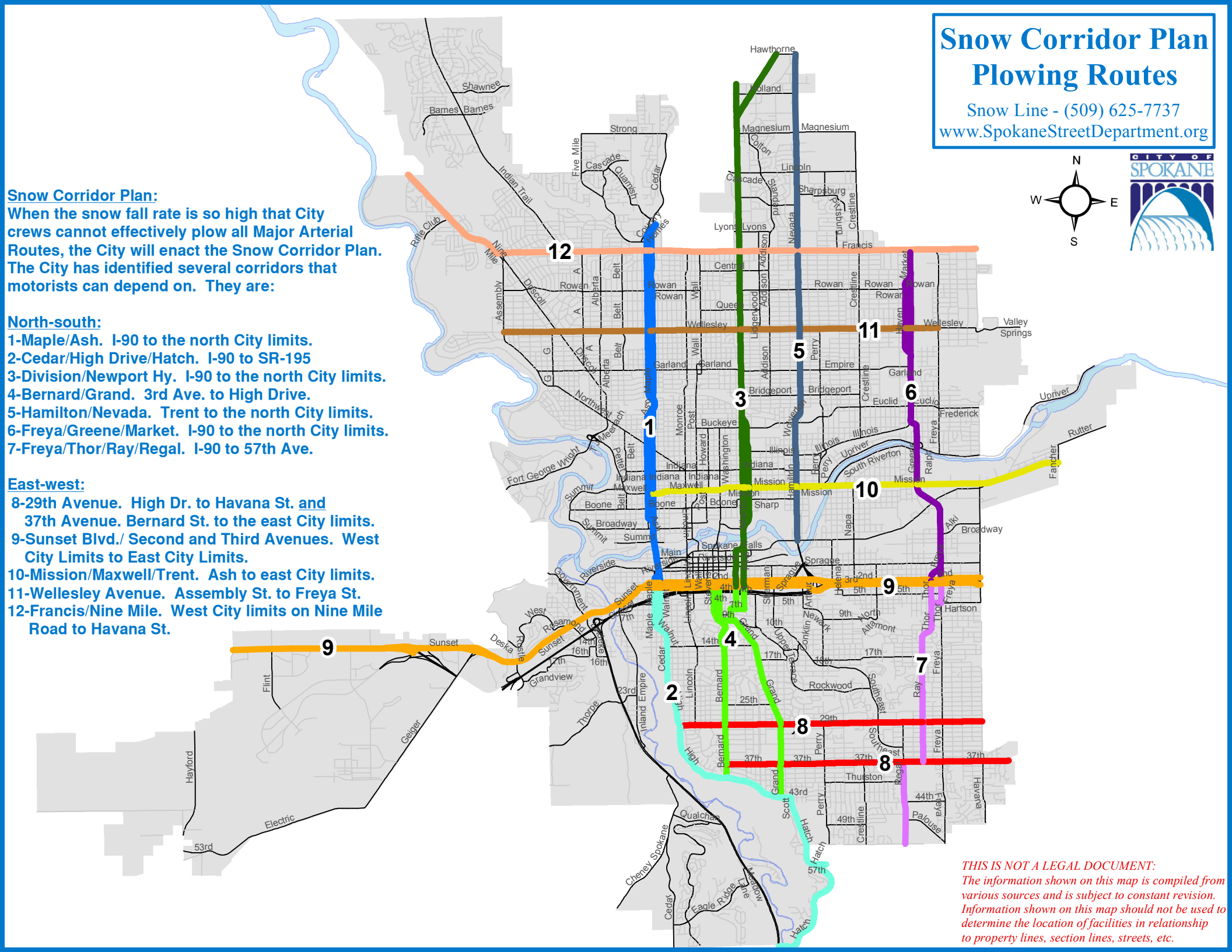
Updated: 1/9/2015

Snow Corridor Plan Plowing Routes

Snow Line - (509) 625-7737
www.SpokaneStreetDepartment.org



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12-Francis/Nine Mile. West City limits on Nine Mile Road to Havana St.

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