

City crews spring into action

Spring roadways work will give drivers a smoother ride

April 5, 2016

The City of Edmonton is kicking off the spring roads and parks maintenance program, which includes cleaning up streets and boulevards and improving the condition of roads.



"On April 4, 2016 the roadway and parks maintenance programs officially changed from winter to spring duties," says Eduardo Sosa, director of Roadway Maintenance. "Citizens will start to see more City workers sweeping and placing asphalt to make roads clean and safe."

Approximately 60,000 tonnes of sand mix were applied to roads to make them safe over the past six months. City crews are now removing sand from boulevards, roads and storm sewers to recover as much material as possible. Spring sweeping is also an important service to help keep our roadway boulevards green and healthy while also removing accumulated litter. About 80 per cent of the sand swept up will be reused, reducing the strain on landfills and preventing the materials from entering Edmonton's drainage system and waterways. Cleanup typically takes about eight weeks, depending on weather, is expected to wrap up in early June.

Signs will be set up in neighbourhoods notifying residents to avoid parking along bus routes or residential roads during this time. Citizens can also check the online schedule at edmonton.ca/streetcleaning to see when street cleaning will take place in their neighbourhoods.

In addition to street sweeping, crews are out repairing roads, including potholes, with about 40,000 locations repaired so far in 2016. With less snow this year, the City is expecting fewer repairs to be required than in 2015.

"Crews in each district search out and repair potholes, but we also appreciate the assistance of citizens in helping to identify problem areas," adds Sosa. "Edmontonians can call 311, use the 311 app, or go online to edmonton.ca/potholes to report locations. We will address them on a priority basis, with severe potholes in high traffic areas receiving attention from crews first."

In 2015, the City applied approximately 11,000 tonnes of asphalt on 550,000 potholes throughout the city, enough to pave almost 35 kilometres of road (equal to paving a two-lane road from Edmonton City Hall to Leduc).

In addition to maintenance activities, the City also tests materials that are used in roadway construction and maintenance.

"The City has created a research laboratory that's unique in Canada," says Hugh Donovan, General Supervisor of Construction Services at the City of Edmonton. "We test the composition and performance of commercial construction products and choose the most durable and cost-effective materials to repair roads in Edmonton's climate conditions. Better data means quality roads that last longer."

The City reminds drivers to exercise extreme caution around crews. Please slow down, leave lots of room and understand that workers are out there to improve the appearance and condition of Edmonton streets.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/streetcleaning

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