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The City of DeKalb has prioritized the plowing of City streets by designating each street into one of the following categories:

Main Road – Red  
Snow Route - Blue  
Collector Streets – Green  
Residential – Black



The criterion for prioritization and designation of each street into the proper category is based on geographical location of the particular road and traffic counts. As such, cul-de-sacs and local residential roads will not have the same priority as a main road or snow route where the traffic count may exceed 5000 cars per day.

The City map is broken up into 6 geographical sections. Depending upon the actual size of the particular section, it may have either two or three large snow plows assigned to it.

When the snow event begins, we start by working on the “main” roads and snow routes. These roads must be our first priority for reasons of public safety. When the snow event has subsided and the “main” roads and snow routes are acceptable, we then begin working on the collector streets or “green” streets. After that, each and every street within each section is cleared, while still being aware of the condition of the “main” roads and snow routes. While the green streets and residential streets are being plowed, five smaller snow plows begin working to clear the over 100 cul-de-sacs within our City’s street system.

We understand the need for each and every street to be kept clear for reasons of travel and we continue to make every effort to clear all of our City streets in an expedient and safe method that takes into mind the best interests of public safety as a whole. Thank you for your patience and understanding during these times. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact the Streets Division at (815) 748-2040. As always, we welcome your input.