



Street Sweeping Program

Why do we sweep the streets?

Everyday activities from our citizens, contractors, and mother nature deposit debris in the form of soil, leaves, and other litter onto our roads. When it rains, the debris is carried into storm drains polluting our storm water and increasing the maintenance burden of our storm water system.

Additionally, sweeping the roads helps improve air quality by reducing the PM10's or "dust particles" suspended in the air that can cause breathing problems. This is especially important in the winter months when inversion settles over the valleys.

Street sweeping helps prevent these issues by vacuuming up debris and taking it to an appropriate waste management facility. As an added bonus, our roads are cleaner and safer.

How often do we sweep?

The City has two full-time sweeper operators that sweep each street every 3-5 weeks from March through October when road conditions are generally warmer and dry.

During the Fall, the City has 3 sweepers running full time to clean up as many leaves as possible to help prevent the drainage system from becoming plugged once winter hits and freezes material on top of drain inlets. This goes a long way to help prevent flooding or damage to private and public property.

During the Spring, as soon as the roads warm up and the sweepers are able to sweep on a regular schedule, the City has 3 sweepers running full time until all public streets have been swept at least 1 time to remove heavy sediment buildup from the winter months.

What can you do to help sweeper operators?

The goal of street sweeping is to remove as much debris as possible, especially from curbs where water and debris collect. Removing any obstruction to the curb line (parked cars, trailers, basketball hoops, etc) goes a long way to increase the operator's ability to sweep well.

This also includes removing overhead obstructions such as tree limbs. Please prune tree limbs at minimum 4' behind the curb and at least 10' above the asphalt. This will aid sweepers in cleaning the gutter as well as prevent damage to the sweeper trucks.

With spring just around the corner, be sure that landscape materials or stock piles are placed in your yard or on your driveway, not in the street!

What is the Street Sweeping Progress Map?

For those who would like to see where the operators have been and when, we have provided a sweeping progress map online that shows this information. It may help predict when the operator will return to your street based on the 3-5 week cycle. It can be accessed at orem.org/sweeping

1. Select the button "View Street Sweeping Progress Map"
2. Select the blue "Layers" tab
3. Expand "Sweeper Progress"
4. Check mark "Today's Sweeping" or any completed or started cycle date you would like to view.
5. Zoom into the desired location in Orem until the colored pathway you have selected to view shows a date and unit number (3/19/2024 Unit #8358)