



FACT SHEET: Snow Preparedness at YVR

Maintaining a safe and secure airfield for aircraft, passengers, workers and the community is the focus of everything we do at Vancouver International Airport (YVR). This includes the airport's snow response program.

- YVR begins preparations for each winter season in late summer by reviewing and revising plans, preparing specialized equipment, ordering supplies and briefing staff and contractors. These preparations culminate in full training exercises on the airport's runways and taxiways.
- Throughout the winter, Airport Authority staff monitor the weather closely and have direct 24/7 access to meteorologists who focus specifically on weather and snow forecasting for the airport.
- During a major snow storm, YVR will use up to 80 pieces of snow removal equipment to keep runways, taxiways and aprons safe for aircraft and passengers.
- YVR's snow response fleet can clear the equivalent of Granville Street, full width and full length, from the Fraser River to Burrard Inlet, in less than 15 minutes.
- The Airport Authority's runway and taxiway snow removal fleet includes the following specialized equipment:
 - Six multi-hogs that are equipped with a broom, plow and chemical applicator to clear runway markings and roadways.
 - Five OshKosh H-Series snow blowers, which have a combined capacity to blow 25,000 tons of snow every hour as far as 150 feet off of the airport's runways and taxiways (5,000 tons/hour each).
 - Five OshKosh P-Series/MB 4600 'all-in-one' trucks, each capable of ploughing and sweeping a 24-foot wide path on the airport's runways and taxiways.
 - Three OshKosh H-Series sweeper with a 22-foot wide high-speed broom.
 - Three OshKosh P-Series trucks, each equipped with a 24-foot high-speed snow plough.
 - Tree trucks that spread environmentally friendly solid and liquid de-icing solutions to ensure that YVR's runways and taxiways don't freeze over in cold weather.
 - Three Boschung jetbroom combination units that plow, broom and spread chemical. They are primarily used on taxiways.
- On its aprons, YVR uses three high-tech snow-melting machines (also known as hot tubs) that are each equal in size to a semi-trailer and capable of melting the equivalent of 20 truckloads of snow every hour.
- Vancouver Airport Authority has invested close to \$75 million in snow removal equipment, as well as in aircraft de-icing equipment, and expansion and enhancements to its aircraft de-icing facilities.

- Aircraft de-icing services are provided by Aero MAG, which services all aircraft operators with its fleet of 15 de-icing trucks on 10 communal de-icing bays, including an electric model we are trialing this year.

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About Vancouver Airport Authority

Vancouver Airport Authority is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that manages Vancouver International Airport (YVR). We are committed to creating an airport that British Columbia can be proud of: a premier global gateway, local economic generator and a community contributor.

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