



Street Cleaning Frequently Asked Questions



How will I know if street cleaning, year-round cleaning and/or leaf removal is scheduled or cancelled?

For daily updates on the districts that we are currently working in, call the “Street Cleaning Hotline” at **610-437-7636**. Information will also be available on the Streets Home Page at www.allentownpa.gov. If you are not sure which District you live in, please check the Street Sweeping District Maps.

Do I really have to abide by the times on the “no parking street cleaning sign”?

Under City Codified Ordinances, Part 5, Title 5- Stopping, Standing and Parking, Article 539.03 (B): The posted times designated on the “No Parking/Street Cleaning” signs shall remain in effect for the full length of time or until the street area has been cleaned.

Please remember that the mechanical sweepers do back-up at times. Best practice would be to wait until the sweeper has left your hundred-block to park your vehicle, in case more than one pass is needed to clean your street.

It’s raining, will there be street sweeping today?

Street Sweeping will take place in scheduled districts RAIN or SHINE.

Who do I contact when I receive a parking ticket?

Questions regarding parking tickets should be directed to the Allentown Parking Authority at **610-841-9090**. Parking Authority information may also be found on their website at www.allentownparking.org

I have a handicapped parking spot in front of my home; must I move my vehicle during scheduled street sweeping?

Yes, you will need to move your vehicle. The parking authority will issue you one courtesy warning per year; after that you will be ticketed the same as other vehicles on the route.

Any questions regarding handicapped parking spots should be directed to the Allentown Parking Authority at **610-841-9090**.

Can I request to have my alley cleaned?

Residents may request to have their alleys cleaned as long as the larger mechanical sweepers can fit through. A slip will be made up in our office and will be completed as time permits.

Brooms, dustpans and trash bags are provided to Allentown residents free of charge at Recycling by calling **610-437-8729**.

Can I request to have my Street Sweeping Time Zone changed?

Although requests can be made and will be considered, zones are set as a systematic approach to remove garbage and debris from our roadways. Any modification in one area would affect the entire program.



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Does the Streets Department assist with Leaf pick up?

The City of Allentown "Leaf Pick-Up Program" begins in November. Due to the varying accumulations of leaves in all Districts, it is impossible to guarantee a set day for pick up. If pick up cannot be completed in a District during the scheduled time, crews will return the following week. In the event that a week's schedule is completed before week's end, collection may begin in a District which is not previously scheduled.

During leaf season, we go through each District twice with our front-end loaders, sweepers and leaf suckers. Leaves raked out after crews have gone by will not be picked up until the next time crews are scheduled in that District. After each District is gone through twice for leaf pickup, we will go through again with just the sweepers for our final sweep. After the final sweep is accomplished in your district, no leaves are to be put into the street.

Up to the Thanksgiving Holiday, leaves can be put in your yard-waste containers or yard-waste bags that will be picked up on your regular recycling schedule.

After the Thanksgiving Holiday leaves they can be put into either yard waste or plastic bags for us to pick them up. Residents must put their bags at the curb and call the Bureau of Streets at **610-437-7638** or **610-437-7691** and allow a few days for the pick up of the bagged leaves. Bags that have a mixture of leaves and garbage will not be picked up.

A few things to remember when putting leaves out for pickup are as follows: Make sure there are no branches, rocks, or debris in the piles. If we see this type of foreign material in the pile, we will not pick it up. This type of foreign material usually results in equipment breakdowns for our leaf suckers and/or loss of time due to the need to shut off equipment and clean it out. When placing your leaves in street, try to keep the piles about a foot away from the curb. This is for two reasons, it allows our machinery to pick up the entire pile and not leave a mess along the curb, and if we get heavy rains, it allows the water to run into the inlets/catch basins. If there is an inlet/catch basin in front of your house please try to keep the top of the grate free of debris.

What happens in the Year Round Districts during winter events?

The only aspect that will be completed by the date and time on the "no parking street cleaning sign" in **District 1** will be street sweeping. Street cleaning will be suspended in district 1 during a winter event and will not be reinstated until the curb line is clear enough from snow piles. It shall be reinstated by the director of public works or his designee. To minimize confusion and create continuity District 1 will only be reinstated on a Monday.

All aspects of "Street Cleaning", including sweeping, plowing and salting and removing snow if necessary will be completed by the date and time on the "no parking street cleaning sign" in **District 9**. Street cleaning will be suspended in this district during a winter event for a minimum of 24 hours after the storm has ended. It shall be reinstated by the director of public works or his designee.

Streets Department

Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Phone: For general Street Cleaning information, call 610-437-7636
City of Allentown information Desk, call 610-439-5999

City of Allentown Website: www.allentownpa.gov