

MBTA Winter Weather Service Plans



The MBTA recently announced plans for handling this season's winter weather. The Seaport TMA advises commuters to review the reduced service schedules that may be in effect at times this winter, to determine what changes, if any, may be made to their daily commute.

Reduced service schedules will only be enacted on severe weather days, such as a snow emergency, a large number of schools are closed, etc. Ridership on these days typically is 50% lower than usual and temporarily implementing this schedule is expected to be a rare event.

The reason for service reductions is that maintaining operations one to two days after severe weather occurs is more challenging for the MBTA than operating during the severe weather. Snow and salt cause major damage to bus and train engines. Reducing service during severe weather keeps some vehicles as replacements in case repairs are needed.

- The Red, Blue, Orange and Green Lines may operate at reduced levels, resulting in less frequent service. Mattapan Hi-Speed line service may be replaced by bus shuttles during severe weather.
- Each commuter rail line has a link to its respective reduced service schedule on the MBTA's website. Look carefully at the schedule for your line, since changes may not be readily apparent in a quick glance.
 - Example of schedule change: One morning train and one afternoon train on the Greenbush commuter rail are completely removed; all other trains run according to their normal schedule.
- Bus routes also have links on the MBTA's website to their winter weather schedules. Some bus routes may operate at reduced levels, resulting in less frequent service; other routes will operate on "snow routes," especially those located on hills or narrow streets where buses cannot make turns. Each individual route notes which stops will not be made and where the next pick-up location is.
 - Unlike the commuter rail, snow routes can be used all winter, not just during severe weather.
- Learn more about your specific route/schedule here: <http://www.mbta.com/winter/>

The MBTA will announce when winter weather schedules are in effect using the following communications tools:

- MBTA website: www.mbta.com
- Text message and/or email alerts: sign up to receive them at this link -- <http://www.talerts.com/SubscribeAlerts.aspx>
- Twitter: follow @MBTAGM
- Communication at MBTA stations and on MBTA vehicles

For additional information visit the MBTA's Winter Weather website page: <http://www.mbta.com/winter/>.