Snow (continued)

If you’re unable to remove or consolidate your roadway setup, you are encouraged to take steps to protect your asset from damage due to snow removal operations. The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) has conducted training exercises that included simulated snow removal operations on narrow streets with roadway setups on both sides. DSNY will conduct targeted outreach to restaurants to ensure setups meet DOT siting criteria and that roads can be efficiently plowed and remain passable.

- Use your snow sticks to increase visibility of your setup components if they are moved
- You can sign up to receive snow alerts and all snow-related updates through Notify NYC. To sign up for Notify NYC, call 311, visit [nyc.gov/notifynyc](http://nyc.gov/notifynyc), or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter

Restaurant Owners May

- Leave barriers in place within a metered zone, alternate side parking, or No Parking Anytime zone, provided that that tables and chairs are removed or secured when not in operation
- Where seating is authorized along a curb, install a platform behind the required barrier to flush height with curb to facilitate ADA compliance, prevent the curb from becoming a tripping hazard, and allow drainage to underpass seating
  - Such platforms shall not block rain water drainage getting to the curb or flowing along the curb
  - Such platforms shall not obstruct access to or ventilation of utility covers

General

- Must be a ground floor, brick and mortar restaurant or bar with a DOHMH food service establishment permit
- NYC Open Restaurant application does not cover usage that falls within private property (i.e. backyard, patio, etc.)
- Must be ADA compliant
- Applicant required to provide all tables, chairs, barriers, and ramps. Nothing may be affixed to the roadway or sidewalk
- Tables and chairs shall be removed or secured in place when not in use

Application

- Website: [nyc.gov/openrestaurants](http://nyc.gov/openrestaurants)
- Business must self-certify that they comply with all requirements stated in application

- If business intends to serve alcohol, NYC Open Restaurants application is one-stop-shop for NY State Liquor Authority (SLA) on-premises license extension if establishment provides required SLA information
- Business will be approved or denied instantly after submitting

Health

- Businesses must comply with all State and City health requirements
- Guidance from DOHMH about Outdoor and Takeout Delivery
- New York State Dept of Health Interim Guidance for Outdoor Space
- Public must follow the “Core Four”:
  1. Wear a mask
  2. Stay home if feeling unwell
  3. Keep 6’ distance between people
  4. Wash hands

Additional Resources

- Small Business Services Hotline: 888-SBS-4NYC
  The City has launched a small business hotline to answer the most pressing questions of small business owners as they prepare to re-open. Small Business Advocates and Compliance Advisors will monitor the hotline and have been equipped with the latest guidelines and regulations to share with business owners. To reach the hotline, dial 888-SBS-4NYC or 888-727-4692
- [Open Restaurants Frequently Asked Questions](http://nyc.gov/openrestaurants)
- [NYC Restaurant Reopening Guide](http://nyc.gov/openrestaurants)
- [NY State Liquor Authority Guidance on Outdoor Expansion of Licensed Premises in Response to COVID-19](http://nyc.gov/openrestaurants)
- [Outbreak Reopening Supplies Marketplace, including Physical Enhancements and Portable Furniture New York State Hot Spot Zones](http://nyc.gov/openrestaurants)

These links can be found on [nyc.gov/openrestaurants](http://nyc.gov/openrestaurants)

As of November 13, 2020, bars and restaurants are required to close in-person service from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. daily. After 10 p.m., bars and restaurants are able to provide food to-go for curbside pickup or delivery, but are prohibited from serving alcohol to-go.
Sidewalk Seating

- Seating and tables must be up against the wall of the business or as close as possible
- Must leave an 8' clear path for pedestrians
- Must be at least 3' from the adjacent business
- Cannot block utility hardware or siamese water connection
- Cannot block bus stop waiting area
- For clear path purposes, parking meters, traffic signs and tree pits with flush gratings (without tree guards) are exempt. All other above-grade structures are considered obstructions.

Roadway Seating

Restaurants must:

- Create a protective barrier on all three sides of the seating perimeter that are in the roadway, to separate seating from the travel lane. Such barriers must be at least 18” in width and 30–36” in height (excluding plantings) on all three sides that are in the roadway, to preserve visibility for motorists and provide protection for patrons (see Siting Criteria diagram)
  - Barriers must have a fully built interior wall and bottom to hold filler material
  - All 18-inch roadway barriers must be completely filled with soil or sand
  - Continuous reflector tape must be added along the top outside edges, and snow sticks must be added to the corners of the two barriers facing traffic
  - If you have a plastic water-filled barrier, place it against the short edge of your barriers facing oncoming traffic. Be sure to fill it with water and approximately 100 pounds of rock salt to prevent freezing
- Provide a ramp for ADA compliance, which can be made of non-permanent materials
- Not place seating or barriers within 15’ of a fire hydrant. Doing so jeopardizes fire safety for your fellow New Yorkers
- Not place seating or barriers within 8’ of a crosswalk, to provide for safe vehicle turns and avoid crowding
- Not provide any lighting that is blinding to passing traffic
- Not place seating within a bus stop, bike lane, taxi stand, Car Share parking space, painted curb extension or expanded sidewalk, designated buffer zone (area with white markings separating a bike or parking lane from a travel lane), or vehicular moving lane. Roadway seating may be set up in a bus lane as long as all barriers, seating and ramps are removed during the hours No Standing is in effect. Roadway seating may be set up in a floating parking lane in front of an approved business. Please consult nyc.gov/openrestaurants for additional details
- Remove tables and chairs or secure them in place when not in operation
- Comply with NYC Fire Department Open Flame and other applicable Fire Codes
- Structures, tents or umbrellas may not block any right of way signs or street regulation signs

Enclosures

New York State outdoor dining guidelines permit installing a temporary or fixed cover (i.e. awning, roof or tent) so long as it has at least two open sides for airflow.

- If two (2) or more side walls are open, and at least one is parallel to the roadway, you may operate following all outdoor dining guidelines (i.e., 6’ between tables, no more than 10 people seated at one table), or fewer if limited by zones/localized restrictions
- If three (3) side walls or more are in use, the occupancy limit will be capped at 25 percent capacity, and all indoor dining guidelines must be followed. When indoor dining is not permitted, structures with three (3) side walls may not operate
- Enclosed structures, such as plastic domes, will be allowed for individual parties and must have adequate ventilation to allow for air circulation
- Only electrical heaters are allowed within the roadway setups

Snow

- During an active snow alert, Open Restaurants will be notified if roadway dining is suspended. When roadway dining is suspended:
  - Diners may not sit in roadway setups. Please remove or secure any tables and chairs
  - All electrical heaters in roadway setups must be removed
  - If possible, remove any overhead coverings or regularly remove the snow until the snow alert ends
  - If 12” or more of snow is forecast:
    - Remove or consolidate your roadway setups to have as small a footprint as possible along the curb