

[^ Back to Contents](#)

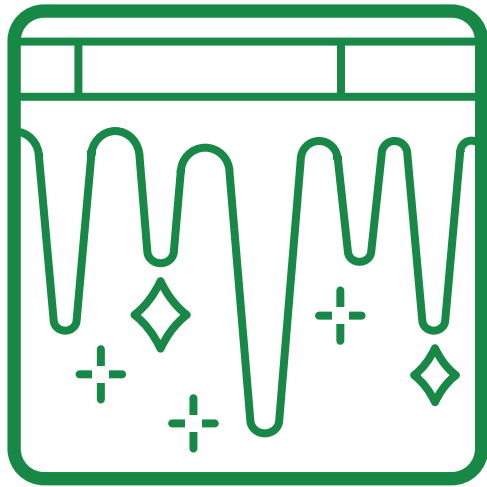
Train services are disrupted or suspended **when it snows. What kind of effect does snow have** on trains?



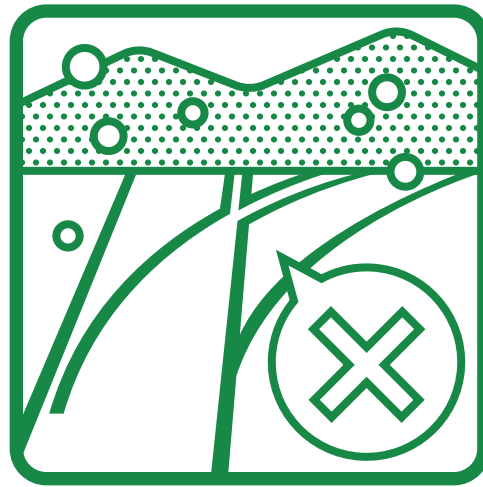
Various service interruptions could occur when it snows. These include accumulated snow making railway **switches inoperable or trees falling on overhead lines** and causing power outages.



Examples of the Effects of Snow on Train Service



Frozen
Overhead Line



Inoperable
Switch



Fallen Bamboo



Fallen Tree



Snow Blockage

When heavy snowfall is in the forecast, JR East tries **to keep the impact to a minimum** through means such as reducing the number of trains and setting switches in single positions. Particularly in snow belt regions, JR East takes various steps to be able to continue train services as much as possible.



Service Plans During Heavy Snowfall in the Greater Tokyo Area

Normal Service

When snowfall is visible but the snow soon melts

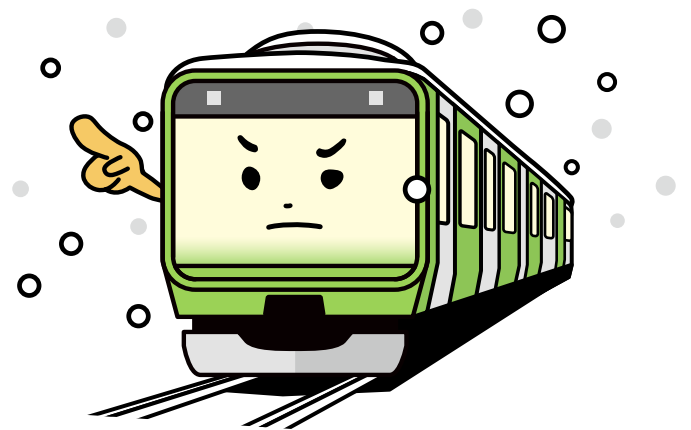
Operating as usual!



Normal Service with Caution

When snow accumulation on the ground is light

Operating while observing
snow buildup, possibly
reducing the number of trains
in some cases!



Limited Service*

When snow accumulates steadily on the ground

Operating with a reduced number of trains and
keeping an eye on the weather forecast!
Service will be suspended if heavy snowfall
results in dangerous conditions!



JR East has systems in place to quickly address fallen trees and clear snow from platforms and grade crossings.



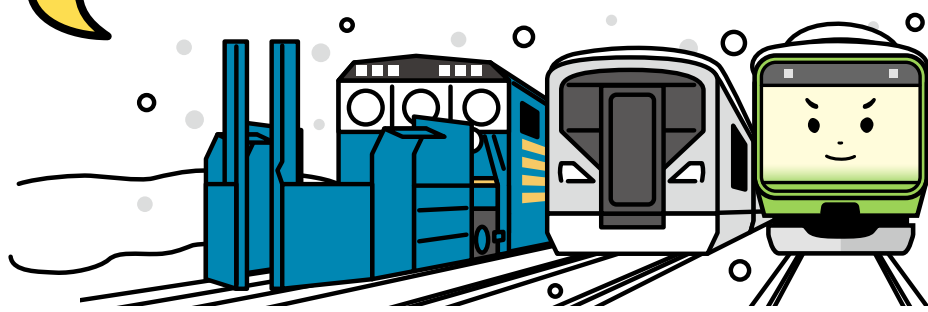
* Service with reduced numbers of trains will be announced to passengers in advance.

Service Plans During Heavy Snowfall in Snow Belt Areas

Normal Service

Snow is accumulating steadily but can be removed regularly

Operating as usual!



Snow will be removed regularly.



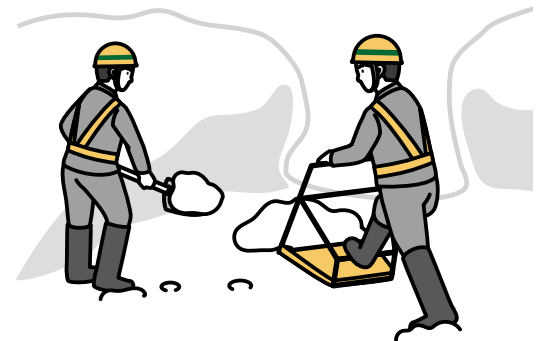
Limited Service*

When snowfall is too heavy to be removed normally

Operating with a reduced number of trains to prevent extensive schedule disruptions or stops between stations!



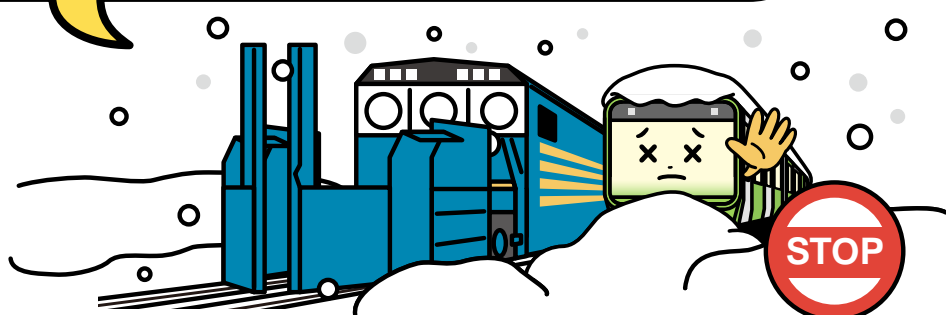
Snow will be removed in between passing trains.



Service Suspended

When snow is accumulating rapidly and it is unsafe to operate trains, such as when there is a risk of trains in service being blocked by snow

Service will be suspended and the snow removed!



Snow removal will take place day and night.



* Service with reduced numbers of trains will be announced to passengers in advance.