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DSM Airport snow crews hard at work

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DES MOINES - While home owners are digging out from the snow storm, workers at the Des Moines airport are hard at work too. These crews really have to stay on top of the snow on the runways. Local 5's Lakyn McGee took a ride on a snow plow as they cleared the paths for planes to take off and land.

The Des Moines International Airport has around 10 snow plows working around the clock to make sure passengers get to where they're going safely.

Rick Johnson is a field maintenance worker at the airport and he says "It's a lot of ground to cover. Some people say, 'Well, it only snowed half an inch,' and when you're working out here with the amount of surface we cover you can see that the piles are huge. We work around the clock starting at 4 a.m. It's a rotating never ending deal. It's a battle. We have to deal with a base radio and a tower frequency that we are always monitoring. You have to find strange ways to keep yourself occupied. I see them all getting on these planes and I'm stuck here in the cold, but we are here for a reason and that's to get them out safely and to their destination. I like the job."

Be sure to check with your airline if you're departing the Des Moines airport later tonight.