

Town of Dartmouth Department of Public Works

In the event of a snowstorm, the Department of Public Works is responsible for deicing and plowing the 220 miles of public roadway in the Town of Dartmouth. At full deployment, the DPW utilizes over 30 pieces of equipment. Obviously certain areas of the Town have a greater intensity of use and priority for maintenance to serve the users. The concern for safety, general welfare, and duration of travel necessitate the priority be given to certain areas over others.

When does snowplowing begin?

Snowplowing crews are called to duty as the accumulation of snow reaches three (3) inches or less if combined with freezing and icing conditions.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Emergency—911

Department of Services & Infrastructure—(508) 999-0744

Police Dispatch—(508) 910-1734

State Police—(508) 993-8373

Emergency Snow Parking Proclamation

When it is determined by the Director of Public Works and Chief of Police or his designee, that the extent of a storm will call for more than normal operations an emergency proclamation will be issued.

When an emergency snowplowing proclamation is issued the following will be in effect:

1. No parking on hydrant side of street
2. If no hydrant, park on even house numbered side of street
3. No parking ban remains in effect for the duration of the proclamation

(As conditions warrant, violators of this parking ban will be subject to towing/storage fees per Town Bylaws [Vehicles](#) Section 1 subsections 1-5)

Responsibility of the Homeowner

Town of Dartmouth Bylaws [Streets & Sidewalks](#)

Section 15—Removal of Snow from Sidewalks

Every owner or occupant of a building or lot abutting upon a hard-surfaced sidewalk in any street or public place in the Town shall cause the snow to be removed from such sidewalk within a reasonable time after such snow has ceased to fall; except under unusual or extraordinary circumstances a reasonable time shall be held to be as follows: If a snow falls in the daytime, it shall be removed from the sidewalk within four hours from the time it shall have ceased falling; if in the night time, it shall be removed on or before eleven o'clock in the forenoon next succeeding. The provisions of this section shall apply to snow falling from any building or accumulating upon such sidewalk for any other cause.

Section 20—Fine for Obstruction of Town Layout—Snow or Ice

No person other than an employee in the service of the Town of Dartmouth or any employee in the service of an independent contractor acting for the Town of Dartmouth or any other subdivision thereof shall pile, push or plow snow or ice onto a Town layout, including, but not limited to, a street, roadway, lane, by way or sidewalk so as to impede the flow of traffic or pedestrian on such. Whoever violates this section shall be punished by a fine of one hundred and fifty dollars. Such provisions to be enforceable by the Dartmouth Police Department under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40 Section 21D.

Mailbox Replacement Policy

Every winter, Town plow trucks occasionally damage a mailbox while clearing the streets of snow and ice. While Town crews do their best to avoid hitting mailboxes, sometimes especially when visibility is poor a mailbox can be struck by accident. If a Town plow or truck damages a mailbox through direct contact, the mailbox will be repaired or replaced in accordance with established guidelines with a standard type of mailbox. The Town cannot replace decorative mailboxes. A standard design will be used for all mailbox replacements. A property owner who installs decorative materials on the road does so at his/her own risk.

