

MAILBOXES
An area of concern is mailboxes. To reduce the possibility of damaging a mailbox, our plow truck operators are trained to avoid them. However, experience has shown that with reduced visibility during a snowstorm, combined with the height of the snow banks, it is not always possible for a driver to see a mailbox in time to avoid a collision with the "wing" or the heavy snow that is thrown by the moving plow. Any installation within the road right-of-way (including a mailbox), is placed there at the owner's risk. Therefore, property owners are encouraged to put mailboxes at the maximum allowable distance from the roadway pavement. It is strongly recommended that mailboxes and posts be inspected to insure they are properly secured and the posts are not rotten.

## RIGHT OF WAY

Please remove all equipment from the Right-of-Way. All equipment must be removed from the public streets and sidewalks to allow for Town and Emergency vehicles to operate during the winter season. Basketball nets, hockey nets, various sports equipment, unregistered vehicles, unregistered trailers and all other equipment in the Right-of Way must be removed during the entire season. If equipment is not removed in a timely fashion the Town shall remove and dispose of any materials left in the right-of-way. The DPW Highway Division shall not be responsible for damage incurred to equipment left in the Right-of-Way. Residents will be responsible for damage caused to Town equipment or property due to items left in the Right-of-Way.


## SNOW REMOVAL FOR DOWNTOWN AREA

If snow becomes a hazard within the business areas, the DPW will implement its snow mon. The removal will begin after the storm and may require additional days to ensure that all areas are safe for pedestrians. Removal will generally take place during business hours to minimize the financial impact on the Town budget.

## CHAPTER VIII, SUB-SECTION C BY-LAW

No person shall move snow or ice from private property onto the traveled portion of a public way or sidewalk so as to impede or obstruct the use of such public way or sidewalk or so as to create a hazard or unsafe condition on such a public way or sidewalk.

The Uxbridge Department of Public Works strives to provide the safest streets and roadways in the shortest period of time for the citizens. With your cooperation and commonsense, we will all benefit.

## WINTER SAND FOR RESIDENTS

Winter sand is available for Uxbridge residents only at the Department of Public Works Administration Building located at 147 Hecla Street. Please limit yourselves to two (2) pails per visit.

## IMPORTAT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Police/Fire/Ambulance 911
Non-Emergency Fire 508-278-2787
Non-Emergency Police 508-278-7755
DPW Administration 508-278-8616 DPW Highway Division 508-278-8626 DPW Water Division DPW Wastewater Div. 508-278-2887 School 508-278-8648

This brochure contains important information to
help you through the Winter Season

## A Resident's Guide to

## Snow and Ice Operations

## In Uxbridge



Benn Sherman, PE, Director
Paul Morante, Highway Supervisor


Department of Public Works 147 Hecla Street
Uxbridge, Massachusetts 01569 Tel: 508-278-8616 dpw@uxbridge-ma.gov www.facebook.com/UxbridgeDPW

## WINTER STORMS

The Town of Uxbridge takes great pride in making our public roadways as safe as possible under the worst of winter conditions. The Town's goal is to quickly open the streets (over 100 miles) and make them passable so that essential traffic can safely negotiate roadways and enhance community awareness concerning winter operations Residents can help us do this by working together. This brochure provides you with information that will help you and the Department of Public Works (DPW) make the long winter months shorter than expected.

## SNOW PLOWING

The following is a general description of the Department of Public Works snow and ice process
Step 1. When a snowstorm begins, the department responds by pretreating the main roads. This serves two purposes: to keep traffic safely moving and to prevent the snow from bonding to the pavement.

Step 2. Snow plowing begins when snow accumulates three (3) inches, or forecasts dictate. Over 48 Town and private plows can respond to a snow emergency.
Step 3. Plowing will continue until snow has stopped, then post storm clean-up and treating begins;
$\checkmark$ Main streets and school routes are pretreated to achieve the safest possible conditions.
$\checkmark \quad$ Hills and major intersections are treated to improve safety.

- Flat streets are treated only if icy conditions exist.

When driving, please stay 200 feet behind any snowplow and NEVER pass a plow truck. Visibility is not good for the snow plow operator.

## DRIVEWAYS

While the Department of Public Works tries to minimize the amount of snow that gets plowed across driveways and exits, it is unavoidable. Clearing driveway openings is the responsibility of the property owner. Plow blades cannot be lifted as they pass by a driveway. Unfortunately, snow will be plowed into driveways as we perform curb-to-curb plowing. You may wish to clear your driveway several times during the storm or wait until the storm and plowing activities have ended.


The diagram above indicates the suggested driveway clearing method and best mailbox locations to avoid damage to your property and to help minimize the amount of snow in your driveway after the plow passes. While plowing the roadways Highway crews try to minimize the amount of snow that gets plowed into driveways. Also, as long as there is snow in the street, the plow driver will continue to plow the street. Some of this additional snow will end up at the driveway opening. Please know that it is the responsibility of the property owner to clear their driveway opening. To avoid double work while clearing your driveway try to shovel snow from your driveway after the plow has been by, and shovel the snow to the right side of your driveway as you face the road instead of to the left.

## SIDEWALKS

The removal of snow from sidewalks is greatly appreciated. This will help school children, the elderly and the general public from having to walk in the street. The Town of Uxbridge clears designated sidewalks following each storm. Refer to the DPW Snow and Ice webpage for a map illustrating the sidewalks that are targeted for snow cleared. Sidewalks beyond that shown are not cleared. It takes considerable time to accomplish this task and it is only done after all the roads have been cleared. Please do not pile snow on the sidewalks.

## WINTER PARKING BAN

The Town of Uxbridge enforces an overnight parking ban which is in effect from December $1^{\text {st }}$ to April $1^{\text {st. }}$. This ban requires that all roadways be kept clear of any motor vehicles from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. regardless of the weather conditions. Residents are asked to comply with this regulation. Failure to comply will result in the owner receiving a ticket from the Uxbridge Police Department and/or removal of the vehicle from the roadway during a snow emergency at the owner's expense. If a vehicle is impaired and cannot be removed until morning, the owner is required to alert the Uxbridge Police Department for assistance.

## FIRE HYDRANTS \& CATCH BASINS

During winter months, fire hydrants and catch basins must be kept free and clear of snow and ice. This insures the safety of your neighborhood in the event of an emergency and reduces the possibility of street flooding during heavy rains or snow melting periods. Your assistance is important in making sure snow is cleared from hydrants and catch basins. Please help us Keep Uxbridge Safe by shoveling around hydrants after each storm to insure your property's protection. If you see a flooded or blocked storm drain, please contact the DPW office at 508-278-8616 or Highway Division at 508-278-8626.

