

**Town of Foxborough
Snow Removal Bylaw
Approved Town Meeting May 2017**

1. Introduction

The Town of Foxborough believes that it is in the best interest of the residents for the Town to assume basic responsibility for control of snow and ice on the Town streets. Reasonable ice and snow control is necessary for routine travel and emergency services. The Town will provide such control in a safe and cost effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel and environmental concerns. The Town will use Town employees, equipment and/or private contractors to provide this service.

2. Procedures

The Director of Public Works will decide when to begin snow or ice control operations. The criteria for that decision are:

- a. Snow accumulation of 2 inches or more.
- b. Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel.
- c. Ice conditions that seriously affect travel.

3. Method of snow removal

Snow will be plowed in a manner so as to minimize any traffic obstructions. Snow will be plowed from inside out except where it is windrowed and these areas are specified in item #4. In times of extreme snowfall, streets will not always be able to be completely cleared of snow.

4. Snow Removal and Schedule

The Director of Public Works will determine when snow will be removed by truck from the area. Such snow removal will occur in areas where there is no room on the street for snow storage and in areas where accumulated piles of snow create a hazardous condition. Snow removal operations will not commence until other operations have been completed. Snow removal operations may be delayed depending on weather conditions and personnel availability. The snow will be removed and hauled to a snow storage area within Foxborough. The snow storage area will be located as to minimize environmental problems.

The Town has classified Town streets based on the importance and the welfare of the community. These are streets of the Town that provide access for emergency fire, police and medical services.

The second priority streets are those streets providing access to schools and commercial businesses. The third priority streets are low volume residential streets. The fourth priority areas are Town parking lots.

A snow emergency may be declared any time during the year at the discretion of the Town Manager when two or more inches of snow or ice have covered or drifted over a street.

5. Work Schedule for Snow Plow Operators

Snowplow operators are emergency personnel. Operators will take a fifteen (15) minute break every two (2) hours and a half hour meal break after four (4) hours.

Weather Conditions Snow and ice control operations will be conducted only when weather conditions do not endanger the safety of Town employees and equipment. Factors that may delay snow and ice control operations include, severe cold, significant winds and limited visibility.

6. Use of Salt, Sand and Other Chemicals

The Town will use salt, sand and other chemicals when there is hazardous ice or slippery conditions. The Town is concerned about the effect of such chemicals on the environment and will limit its use for that reason.

7. Sidewalks

The Common and School Routes will be maintained throughout and after storms. If schedules allow, additional sidewalks may be cleared in the days following a storm. Some sidewalks are not able to be cleared due to width restrictions and obstacles including but not limited to telephone poles, fire hydrants and stonewalls.

8. Parking Lots, Entrances, and Driveways

Responsibility for private parking lots, entrances to lots and driveways shall rest with the individual property owners. This includes the clearing of additional snow that may accumulate once the Town plows have gone by.

Town snow plowing crews will be responsible for plowing the Municipal parking lots including the Schools.

9. Placement of Snow on Public Property or Obstructing Views

In accordance with the provisions of the Town code and state law it is unlawful for any person to place snow or ice upon public property, including public streets. Furthermore, cleared snow shall be piled and accumulated in a manner, which does not block visibility of drivers on public streets or cause other hazardous conditions. The Director of Public Works shall have the authority to notify property owners who violate this section, and shall require them to remedy the situation.

10. Property Damage

The Town recognizes that on occasion private property is damaged during snow and ice control operations. Where this happens it shall be the policy of the Town to handle damages in the following manner:

1. Mailboxes. Where mailboxes are placed adjacent to the street, it shall be the policy of the Town that snow shall be plowed as close as practicable to the curb to allow for passage of traffic and mail delivery. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to keep piled snow away from mailboxes so mail can be delivered.

Where damage to mailboxes occurs, the homeowner will assume responsibility for repair.

2. Grass & Lawn Repair.:

- a. The property owner shall be responsible to repair lawn damage due to

plow equipment including both street and sidewalk plows.

3. Curbs. Concrete curbs will not be replaced unless the curb back is broken.
4. Driveway Aprons. The Town will not repair damage caused to driveway aprons of fillets where mountable curb is in place, unless authorized by either the Director of Public Works.

11. Parking Restrictions During Winter Months

It shall be unlawful for the owner or operator of any vehicle, other than one acting in an emergency, to park said vehicle on any public street or place where the traveling public has the right of access between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. of any day during the period of December 1 through March 31.

12. Snow & Ice Emergencies

1. In order to facilitate the safe and orderly snow clearing operations, the Town Manger may declare a snow or ice emergency based on existing or expected weather conditions.

2. During a snow or ice emergency all parking on Town roads is prohibited.

3. Vehicles parked on Town roadways in violation of the ban may be ticketed and/or towed at the owner's expense.

4. When possible, advance notice will be sent out through various media electronic means, including posting on the Town's website: www.foxboroughma.gov

13. Annual Review of Snow Removal Policy and Procedures

The Town Manager and Director of Public Works shall annually review and present changes if necessary to Board of Selectmen for adoption by resolution the Town's Snow Removal Policy and Operational Guidelines at its first regular meeting in October.