

## Snowplowing, Sanding and Salting

DPW crews will be on the roadways as soon as possible. The response time will depend on the moisture of the snow, timing of the storm, duration, freezing rain and blowing snow.

Snow has different weight and compacting properties. A fluffy, dry snow requires less salt, sand and plowing than a heavy, wet snow. Wet snow may result in very slippery conditions especially when the newly fallen snow freezes on the pavement.

The time of a storm can also determine when crews will begin their cleanup. During high commuting times crews will make every effort to keep the major roadways clear of snow and ice. Secondary and side streets will be cleared as soon as possible. Top priority will be given to the heavily traveled roads to ensure everyone's safety. Snow that falls on these roads often becomes packed by cars, making it more difficult to scrape off. During evening and early morning storms, DPW crews will have ample time to prepare the roads for the commuting hours.

Because of high sun, snow that falls in late February and March will melt much faster than snow that falls during December and January, there by decreasing the plowing, salting and sanding time.

The duration of the storm also plays an important role in snowplowing and sanding operations. Storms of extended duration tax all available resources (salt, sand, equipment, and employees) to keep the roads open over an extended period of time.

Four inches of snow that falls over a 24 hour period will require more salt, sand and manpower hours than six inches of snow that falls over an eight hour period.

DPW crews will be immediately dispatched with sand and salt when freezing rain falls. Motorists and pedestrians are advised to stay off the road ways until the pavement can be treated. This is also true for sidewalks.

**DPW crews are not responsible for sanding and salting sidewalks. Residents are responsible for snowplowing and snow removal on their own property.**

### **Snowplowing for the Town Hall, Police, Fire, Library, Senior Center, Schools, Water, Sewer, Park Facilities and Public Parking Lots**

The DPW or a local contractor will plow and remove the snow from all public buildings and other areas as soon as possible. The remaining Town departments not listed above are responsible for removing snow from their own property.

Snowplowing and removal is performed at 47 locations, representing 1,300,00 sq. ft. or 29.85 acres.

### **Sidewalk Plowing**

The DPW will plow sidewalks along central routes that are heavily traveled by children on their way to and from school.

Sidewalk plowing will not begin until after the snow has stopped falling and plowing has ceased. If we have back to back storms, we may not clear sidewalks that are along central routes or heavily traveled by school children immediately after the storm. Your assistance is important in making sure snow is cleared from the sidewalk in front of your property.

### **Fire Hydrants/Catch Basins**

During winter months, **fire hydrants** and **catch basins** must be kept free and clear of snow and ice. This ensures the safety of your neighborhood in the event of an emergency.

Keeping **catch basins** clear of snow and ice will reduce the possibility of street flooding during heavy rains or snow melting periods.

Did you know the Water Division assists with all snow and ice operations? As a result, they are unable to remove snow from hydrants until a number of days after the storm. If we receive back to back storms, the Water Division may not be able to remove snow for two to three weeks after the storms.

**Your assistance is important in making sure snow is cleared from hydrants and catch basins. Please shovel the hydrant and catch basin nearest your house after each storm to ensure your property's protection.**

### **Snow Removal for the Downtown Area**

If snow becomes a hazard within the Downtown area, the DPW will implement its snow removal plan. 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.

### **Questions and Complaints Received Most Often by the DPW**

**Q.** Can I push snow from my property onto the sidewalk or street?

**A.** NO. A Town bylaw restricts this act.

Additionally, such action may bring liability if an accident should occur. This also increases the Town's costs for snow operations.

**Q.** Do some streets receive priority during a snow storm?

**A.** YES. Major roadways and hills are a top priority.

**Q.** Does the Town really need a parking ban?

**A.** YES. Snowplowing and removal are difficult; parked cars on the roadways not only increase the number of hazards, but also the time it takes to remove the snow.

**Q.** Do sidewalks receive the same priority as streets?

**A.** NO. The roads are always plowed first. Only certain sidewalks are plowed when the storm has ended.

**Q.** Why is snow pushed into my driveway?

**A.** The situation is unavoidable. The plows remove the snow from curb to curb for maximum clearance of the roadway. This provides for maximum drainage and public safety.

**Q.** Will trash and recyclables be collected during a snow storm?

**A.** YES. Trash should be placed so it does not hinder the street plows or sidewalk plows.

**Q.** Who determines the opening, closing or delayed opening of school during snow and ice storms?

**A.** The school department.

### **Winter Tips**

- Use public transportation.
- Respect parking restrictions. Please remember that the snowplows have to navigate many narrow streets. Residents are requested to avoid parking on the street to allow the snowplow to clear the street from curb to curb. Cars that remain on the street may be plowed in, damaged by a skidding vehicle, ticketed and/or towed.
- Pay close attention to weather forecasts.
- Remember that freezing rain and wet snow create the most slippery road conditions.
- When snow, sleet or freezing rain is forecast Danvers residents are urged to take precautionary measures and stay off the roadways, if possible.

### **Last Word**

Further information on snowplowing, snow removal, parking regulations and suggestions can be directed to the DPW at 978-762-0230. For storm watch information concerning school or business closing, listen to local radio stations.

**Town of Danvers Sand/Salt, Snowplowing and Snow Removal**

This informational brochure provides a general overview of our snow and ice program, important bylaws, frequently asked questions, winter tips and most importantly, seeks your support in providing safe streets and sidewalks during snow and ice emergencies.

The Danvers Department of Public Works maintains the community’s 120 miles of roads during the winter months, salting and sanding during ice and wet snow storms and plowing the snow off the roadways during the more significant storms. During a typical Danvers winter, 3500 tons of salt and sand are used to keep the roads safe for all drivers. The DPW also oversees the removal of snow in the downtown area and public buildings, as required.

Although the majority of snowplowing and snow removal work is performed by the DPW, the Department also utilizes the services of local contractors to complement the Town’s fleet of 33 trucks.

The Town of Danvers snow and ice plan has been carefully and professionally prepared to meet the needs of the community. This plan follows clearly identified routes, when removing snow and ice from streets, sidewalks and Town parking areas.

**\*\*Town Bylaws**

***Use of Streets, Section 6***

Snow Disposal

No person shall place in or on any street or public place any garbage, filth, rubbish or SNOW AND ICE.

This bylaw says that you can not shovel, or plow snow from your driveway into the street or on to the sidewalk. This is important and necessary to ensure safe roads and sidewalks. It also helps the DPW to reduce its cost of snow and ice operations.

NOTE: Contractors or residents can not dispose of snow on Town property without the permission of the Department of Public Works. Please do not dump snow in the street or on the sidewalk.

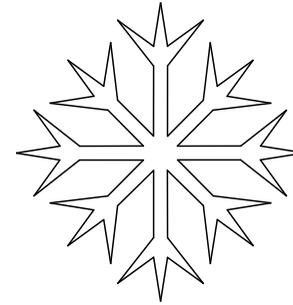
***No all night parking, Section 8***

Parking Ban

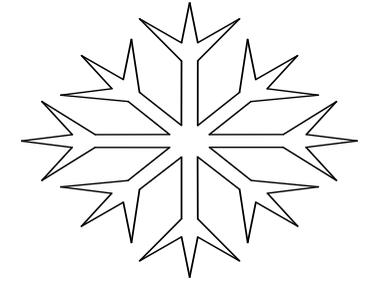
It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle, other than one acting in an emergency, to park said vehicle on any street for a period of time longer than one (1) hour between the hours of 1:00 AM and 6:00 AM of any day between December 1st and April 1st.

Parking on Sidewalks

Parking on sidewalks is illegal and prevents clearing of snow and ice.



**Town of Danvers  
Department of Public Works  
95 Hobart Street  
Danvers, MA 01923**



**Town of Danvers/DPW**

**Snowplowing  
And Snow  
Removal  
Procedures**

Have a safe winter!

**978-762-0230**

**IMPORTANT SNOW INFORMATION**