

**SNOW REMOVAL POLICY
TOWN OF SUFFIELD
October 21, 2009**

Purpose

The goal and intent of the Suffield Public Works Department is to maintain a safe road network by providing an efficient and effective snow and ice removal program. The purpose of this policy is to outline the general snow removal procedures of the town.

SNOW AND ICE CONTROL POLICY

State Roads:

Some major roads in town are maintained by the State of Connecticut DOT regional office. If you live on a State road any issues regarding these roads can be directed to the State DOT at 860-688-0686 or 860-688-6266.

Town Roads:

The Town of Suffield maintains the remainder of the roads (approximately 83 miles). Depending on the temperature, intensity, and duration of the storm, the snowplowing can average anywhere from three to twenty four hours.

On Street Parking:

On street parking in residential areas is discouraged during winter storms. Owners and operators who park on the streets do so at their own risk.

Mailbox Damage:

Prior to the winter season, please check that your mailbox post is sturdy and that the mailbox is securely attached to the post. While plow drivers are careful to avoid mailboxes, there are times when mailboxes are damaged either by direct contact with the plow, or the force of heavy snow coming off the plows during snow plowing operations. Drivers report direct hits by the plows to their Supervisor. However, some times, mailboxes can be damaged without the driver's knowledge. If your mailbox is damaged, please report this to the Highway Department (668-3877) or the Selectman's Office (668-3838). If it is determined that the mailbox was damaged by a town plow, the town will replace it. If the damage is caused by heavy snow coming off the plow blades during normal snowplowing operations, the Town will NOT be responsible as we cannot control where snow will land when coming off the plows.

Catch Basin and Storm Inlets:

To minimize street flooding please shovel snow and ice off the catch basin grates near your house. Highway personnel perform this task on a regular basis, but with more than 1800 catch basins in Town, it is impossible for us to ensure that all are cleared on a continual basis. Report any excessive flooding to the Town's Highway Department.

Sidewalk Clearing:

Section 15-2 of the Town Code of Ordinances, states that the owner or occupant of any premises where there is a public sidewalk must remove the snow and/or ice from the sidewalk within 12 hours of end of the event. Fines may be issued for violation of this Ordinance.

Fire Hydrant Clearing:

Any effort to aid the Fire Department with keeping a hydrant in front of your house cleared of snow is appreciated. Clearing around the hydrant with a path to the road helps protect the safety you and your neighbors.

Winter Sand:

Winter sand is available to Town residents ONLY while supplies last, at the Highway Garage, 42 Ff Tyler Place. Contractors are prohibited from collecting or using this sand.

Disclaimer:

The Town of Suffield Snow Removal Policy, as well as the Town's Snow Removal Operating Procedures are for guidance purposes only. The uncertainty of the conditions and durations of a Winter Storm, may make the town's compliance with this Policy, and the Snow Removal Operating Procedures, difficult and/or unworkable. The Town of Suffield will implement best practices when responding to all Winter Storm situations.

*Currently under review for final adoption by the Board of Selectmen 10/21/09