

City of Newburyport Snow Emergency



This brochure contains important information to help you through the WINTER.

CITY OF NEWBURYPORT
Donna D. Holaday, Mayor



Anthony J. Furnari, Director
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City of Newburyport
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A Message from the Mayor

Plowing snow from Newburyport's 70 miles of public streets is a formidable task. It involves coordination of private and publicly owned plows, mechanics, dispatchers and route supervisors to inspect and control plowing activities and other support personnel. The hours can be extraordinarily long, with operations conducted during the most severe weather and driving conditions. We realize that in an operation of such size and complexity there are bound to be complaints or requests for additional service.

Since it may take several hours for plows to make their way to your street, please try to be patient and avoid early calls for service during a storm. If you believe that a request for service is warranted and sufficient time has elapsed for us to have responded please call 978-465-4464. This number will be staffed or your call will be recorded and the information relayed to our supervisors for action.

Please understand that calling 978-465-4464 is the FASTEST WAY to get a service request resolved.

Remember, driving in winter snowstorms should be avoided whenever possible. In every winter storm, there are times when road conditions are hazardous despite everyone's best efforts. Our work to restore safe road conditions is completed more quickly and more efficiently when roads are free of traffic and illegally parked vehicles.

Thank You, **Donna D. Holaday, Mayor**

Winter Storms

The City of Newburyport takes great pride in making our public roadways as safe as possible under the worst of winter conditions. The City's goal is to quickly open the streets and make them passable so that essential traffic can safely negotiate roadways. Residents can help us do this by working together. This brochure provides you with information that will help you and the Department of Public Services (DPS) make the long winter months shorter than expected.

SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING BAN

The City of Newburyport implements a snow emergency parking ban when it is predicted that we are to receive three inches of snow accumulation. If there is a parking ban in effect, it will appear on www.cityofnewburyport.com.



To get email notifications from the website be sure to select the "Notify Me" button on the front page and sign up.

In addition, flashing blue lights will be activated throughout the city at the following locations:

- ◇ **March's Hill at Bromfield St.**
- ◇ **Route 113 at Route 95 Bridge**
- ◇ **Route 113 at Hoyt's Lane**
- ◇ **Water St. at Shandel Dr.**
- ◇ **Market Square,**
- ◇ **Storey Ave, Ferry Rd and Mosley Ave Intersection**
- ◇ **Malcolm Hoyt Dr. at Parker St.**
- ◇ **High St. @ State St.**
- ◇ **Route 1 Rotary and State St.**
- ◇ **Merrimac, Moseley and Spofford (Roundabout)**
- ◇ **Storey Ave. across from Daniel Lucy Way.**

As always, you may contact The Department of Public Services (978-465-4464) or the Snow Emergency Information Line (978-463-0472 Ext. 1797) to find out the status of the parking ban. Parking regulations are strictly enforced to ensure that streets remain accessible for snowplows, fire apparatus and other emergency vehicles. **Any vehicle that impedes the snow removal process will be towed.**

ALTERNATIVE DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS

The City of Newburyport offers alternative designated parking areas that include the following: **Green Street Municipal Lot, Cashman Park, (off Merrimac Street), Cushing Park (off Washington Street), Waterfront Lots, NRA Lot (behind Custom House), Hales Court Lot (corner of Hales Court and Prince Place), State Street Lot (corner of Harris Street and State Street).**

PLEASE NOTE: All vehicles must be removed from the above listed lots within 12 hours following the cancellation of the snow emergency (weekends included) or vehicles will be towed/ticketed at the owner's expense.

(FYI: It is the policy of the DPS that snow removal will not take place in alternative parking areas, particularly at parks, until snow operations on city streets are completed. Please plan your vehicular needs accordingly.)

SNOW EMERGENCY CANCELLATION can be obtained by checking www.cityof-newburyport.com or calling the Snow Emergency Information Line at 978-463-0472, ext. 1797 or contacting the Department of Public Services at 978-465-4464.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police/Fire/Ambulance	911
Non-Emergency Police	978-465-4411
Non-Emergency Fire	978-465-4427
Snow Emergency/Parking Ban	978-465-4464 ext 1797

UTILITY COMPANIES

National Grid	800-465-1212
Verizon Telephone	800-837-4966
Comcast /Xfinity	800-934-6489

SHOVELING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The City has developed a Shoveling Assistance Program to help senior and infirmed Residents with snow removal from their walkways and driveways. Please Call the Council on Aging at 978-462-8650 or email Roseann Robillard at robillard@cityofnewburyport.com

SNOW PLOWING

The following is a general description of how the Department of Public Services plows snow from city streets.

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 city 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;

- ◇ Main streets and school routes are pretreated to achieve the safest possible conditions.
- ◇ Inclines 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 snowplow operator.

SIDEWALKS

The removal of the snow and ice from sidewalks is the responsibility of the property owners. The City of Newburyport clears designated sidewalks following each storm. It takes considerable time to accomplish this task and it is only done after all the roads have been cleared.

The city ordinance requires property owners to remove snow and ice from their bordering sidewalks within six hours after the snow ceases to fall if it ceases to fall in the daytime and before 12:00 noon if it ceases to fall in the nighttime. If he/she neglects to do so, he/she shall be fined \$50. Violations of this section may be enforced by any police officer, the health director or his designees.

DRIVEWAYS

The Department of Public Services tries to minimize the amount of snow that gets plowed across driveways. Plows cannot "go around" driveways. 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.

Snowplowing, shoveling, or throwing snow back onto the street when clearing driveways and sidewalks is prohibited by City Ordinance and violators can be fined \$50.



Clearing your Driveway...

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.

For more info: www.massdot.state.ma.us/winterroadtreatmentsnowremoval.aspx

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 City and Emergency vehicles to operate during the winter season.

The Department of Public Safety Highway Division must ensure safe passage on all public streets and sidewalks during this 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 City shall remove and dispose of any materials left in the right-of-way. The DPS 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 city equipment or property due to items left in the Right-of-Way.

CATCH BASINS

Help us stop street flooding by shoveling out catch basins near your home.

FIRE HYDRANTS

There are many Fire Hydrants in the City of Newburyport. Please help us *Keep Newburyport Safe* by shoveling around the hydrant near your home.