

**CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES
SNOW AND ICE CONTROL POLICY**

MAILBOXES

Instances where the U.S. Postal Service does not provide door-to-door mail delivery, it is necessary for property owners to install mailboxes in the City right-of-way immediately adjacent to the street curb. While the installation of mailboxes in City right-of-way is permitted, the mailbox owner assumes all risk of damage except where a mailbox is damaged through direct contact by snow removal vehicles. If the mailbox is damaged due to direct contact by a snow removal vehicle, the City, at its option, will repair or replace the mailbox. The City will replace with a standard metal mailbox and a 4' X 4" treated post. The City will reimburse up to \$100.00 provided the owner has contacted the Public Works Superintendent or Street Maintenance Supervisor within 72 hours for verification and authorization. The property owner will be required to submit an itemized statement of materials. Newspaper boxes installed under mailboxes do not allow for snow equipment to pass under and can cause an indirect hit to the mailbox.

A property owner assumes all risks and responsibilities for replacement of mailboxes and supports that are constructed of materials such as, but not limited to, brick and mortar, stone aggregate, ornamental railings, or antique type support.

If a mailbox is damaged due to indirect contact, including the force of snow generated by the snow removal vehicle, the City assumes no responsibility. It is necessary for homeowners in this climate to use materials and construct mailboxes that will withstand the force of a snow windrow off the end of a snowplow.

MAIL DELIVERY

The snowplow operators make every effort to remove snow as close to the curb line as practical to provide access to mailboxes for the mail carriers. It is not possible to provide perfect conditions and minimize damage to mailboxes with the size of equipment the City operates. The final cleaning adjacent to mailboxes is the responsibility of each resident.

LANDSCAPING/YARD DAMAGE

Landscaping, including nursery and inanimate materials that are installed by a property owner or encroach in City right-of-way and are allowed by City ordinance will be the responsibility of the owner and the owner will assume all risk. Damage to trees, shrubbery, and other landscaping will not be considered for compensation. The City cannot control drift or discharge of snow from a snowplow or snow blower.

Any yard damage resulting from the plow or truck tires will be repaired by City personnel. Complaints will be tracked throughout the winter season for restoration in the spring when the weather is more appropriate. Property owners must contact the Public Works Superintendent or Street Maintenance Supervisor within 72 hours for verification and authorization of the damage.

LAWN SPRINKLING, LIGHTING SYSTEM AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

The City will assume no responsibility for damage to above-ground or underground lawn sprinkling systems, exterior lighting systems, and/or similar landscaping installed in the City right-of-way. The City will assume no responsibility for personal property that is placed in the City right-of-way.

DRIVEWAYS

One of the most frequent and irritable problems in removal of snow from public streets is the snow deposited in driveways during plowing operations. Snow accumulated on the plow blade has no place to go but in the driveway. The amount of snow deposited in the driveways may be significant, but is unavoidable due to the nature of snow removal. The depth of snow in any given driveway is proportional to the depth of the given snowfall. The removal of any deposited snow is the responsibility of each resident.

VEHICLES PARKED IN THE STREET

Vehicles parked in a City street during a snow event may get plowed in depending on the amount of snow accumulating in the streets. The removal of any plowed snow around the parked vehicle is the responsibility of each vehicle owner/user.

PLOWING OF PRIVATE PARKING LOTS

Snow from parking lots and private drives is prohibited from being pushed into the adjoining street. All private contractors shall pile the plowed snow within the private property.