

SNOWPLOWING

The following is a general description of how DPW plows snow from Town streets:

Step 1: When a snowstorm begins, the department responds by salting main roads and bus routes. Salting serves two purposes: to keep traffic moving and to prevent the snow from bonding to pavement.

Step 2: Snow plowing typically begins when 2-3 inches of snow accumulates or is forecast. Over 40 Town plows, sanders, and other snow removal equipment can be mobilized and assigned to predetermined routes.

Step 3: Plowing continues until the snow stops and then post-storm salting will begin:

- *Main* streets and school bus routes are salted to achieve bare pavement conditions.
- Residential streets with hills and intersections are treated to improve traction.
- Flat streets are treated only if icy conditions exist

When driving, please stay 200 feet behind any snowplow. Visibility is difficult for the snowplow operator.

Recreation Equipment Must be Removed from Town Roads

Please remove your recreation equipment from town property. Recreation equipment includes, but is not limited to, basketball hoops and hockey nets. This is necessary so that your equipment is not damaged or is in any way impeding the removal of snow and ice from the roadways.

WINTER PARKING BAN

The Town's Traffic Rules and Regulations establish an overnight parking ban between November 1 and April 15. During this calendar period no parking is allowed on any street for a period of time longer than one (1) hour between the hours of midnight and 7:00 a.m. The Board of Selectmen may modify the start and end dates covered by the overnight parking ban based on weather and other conditions. ***Notification is made in October on the Town's website if there will be a delay in the start date of the winter overnight parking ban.***

Frequently Asked Questions regarding Snow Emergencies

When is a Snow Emergency Declared? The Town of Marblehead implements a snow emergency when it is determined that vehicles parked on the public way will impede the town's snow and ice operation efforts. A parking ban automatically goes into effect when a snow emergency is declared (at times outside the hours of the overnight parking ban). Vehicles must be moved immediately off the public way. Vehicles may be towed at the owner's expense if left on the street.

How will I receive notice of a snow emergency?

When a snow emergency goes into effect, it will appear on the homepage of Marblehead's official website, www.marblehead.org. In addition, a *CodeRed* automated phone call will be made to town residents in the *CodeRed* database notifying them of the snow emergency. If you would like your phone number or email added to the *CodeRed* database, or be removed from the database, please visit Marblehead's website at www.marblehead.org

How will I know when the snow emergency is over? To determine when a snow emergency ends, residents can check www.marblehead.org

Town of Marblehead Snow Emergency Brochure



Town of Marblehead
Department of Public Works
3 Tower Way
Marblehead, MA 01945
781-631-1750

A Message from the Town of Marblehead

Removing snow and ice from Marblehead's public roads is a formidable task. It involves coordination of plow operators, heavy equipment, mechanics, dispatchers, and route supervisors. The hours can be very long, with operations conducted during the most severe weather and driving conditions. We realize that an operation of such size and complexity is bound to generate complaints and requests for additional service.

Since it may take several hours for plows to make their way to your street, please be patient and hold off on early calls for service during a storm. If you believe a request for service is warranted and sufficient time has passed for us to have responded, please call 781-631-1750. This number will be staffed or your call will be recorded and the information relayed to supervisors for appropriate action.

Please note that calling 781-631-1750 is the **MOST EFFICIENT WAY** to get a service request response.

During every winter storm there are periods when road conditions are hazardous despite our best efforts. At times storms may even cause closure of the Causeway. Please keep in mind that driving during a winter storm should be avoided whenever possible. Our work to restore safe road conditions can be completed quicker and more efficiently when roads are free of traffic and parked cars.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Frequently Asked Questions Snow Emergency

Who is responsible for shoveling sidewalks?

Although Marblehead does not have a by-law requiring property owners to do so, the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks is greatly appreciated. This will help prevent children, the elderly, and the general public from walking in the street during dangerous driving conditions. Following each storm the Town of Marblehead clears designated sidewalks along designated school routes. It takes time to accomplish this task, and it is only done after all roads have been cleared.

What about driveways?

Clearing driveway openings is the responsibility of the property owner. While the DPW tries to minimize the amount of snow that gets plowed across driveways and exits, 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 operations have ended.

I have a fire hydrant in front of my house, what should I do?

There are over 800 fire hydrants in the Town of Marblehead. The Town appreciates the assistance of our residents and businesses that clear the area (3 ft.) around the fire hydrant. When shoveling hydrants, do not stand in the roadway, wear highly visible clothing and only clear snow from hydrants during daylight hours. Residents and businesses are reminded that it is illegal to cover hydrants, sidewalks or roadways with snow and or ice after any storm. Please refer to Marblehead's By-Law Chapter 162-9.

Frequently Asked Questions Snow Emergency

I have a catch basin in front of my house. What should I do?

If you are physically able, and it is safe to do so, please help us prevent street flooding by shoveling out catch basins near your home. Do not stand in the roadway, wear highly visible clothing and only clear snow from catch basins during daylight hours.

What about school cancellations or delayed openings?

In the event of snow, the Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the Police Department, Department of Public Works along with other area superintendents and the National Weather Service, decides whether to cancel school or delay opening. The School Department will notify parents of closure or delayed opening as early as possible utilizing the phone number in the Aspen System.

For emergency assistance, who can I call?

For snow-related service request during a snow emergency, call 781-631-1750. This is the **MOST EFFICIENT WAY** to get a service request answered.

For Police/Fire/Ambulance emergencies call 911

The non-emergency Police line is:
781-631-1212

The non-emergency Fire line is:
781-631-0142

During a storm further information can also be found on the Town's website:
www. Marblehead.org