

# BE PREPARED FOR WINTER WEATHER

With the winter season approaching here are some things to keep in mind when the snow and bad weather starts.

## When does snow removal begin?

When the Road Department receives word that a storm is on the way, the crews begin preparation, so that they may be on the roads as soon as possible. Before snow and ice make driving conditions hazardous, Township crews will be on the road spreading salt and anti-skid. When approximately three inches of snow has accumulated, the crews will begin to plow the streets. Major through streets receive priority over the local and dead-end streets.

## When will my street be plowed?

Depending on the severity of the snowstorm, residential streets are usually plowed within 4 hours after the storm ends. Of course, a blizzard could cause the time period to be longer.

## Will my cul-de-sac be plowed?

Cul-de-sacs will be plowed with the other residential streets. Due to the circular design of these streets, it is often difficult to equally distribute the snow along the curb line. Do not become alarmed if one area of the cul-de-sac has more snow after plowing than another. Some cul-de-sacs have a snow pile easement and the operators will try to deposit the snow within the designated area.

## Should we move our cars from the street?

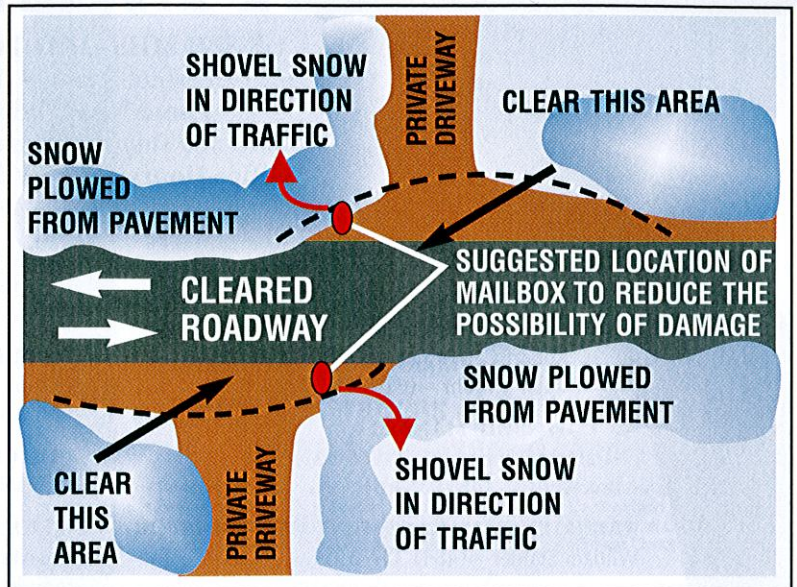
When a storm is forecast, move vehicles to off-street parking when possible. Parked cars can be both a hazard and hindrance to snow removal efforts.

## How wide of a path will the plows clean?

If possible, the plows will clean your street curb to curb without piling it on sidewalks. However, this is not always possible because of parked cars on the street. When cars are parked on the streets, the crews will try to remove as much snow as possible.

## What about driveways and sidewalks?

When cleaning your street, the crews have no place to push the snow except to the side of the road. This creates the unavoidable problem of already cleaned sidewalks and driveways being covered with snow. The best solution to avoid this situation is to wait until the streets have been cleared before cleaning driveways and sidewalks. Remember--do not shovel snow from driveways into the roadway. This practice is illegal under the state motor vehicle code and is also hazardous. The Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code provides for a maximum fine of \$300 for this violation. Property owners are reminded that they are responsible for the actions of



anyone they may hire for snow removal. The accompanying diagram shows how to clear snow from your property. If cleared properly, the plow blade has a chance to "unload" its build up of snow before passing your driveway.

## What if my mailbox becomes covered with snow?

Your mailbox and the access to it for the U. S. Postal Service is the responsibility of the resident. Again, because the crews have no place to put the snow, roadside mailboxes may become blocked. Heavy snow coming off the plow may damage mailboxes. This is not intentional, but does occasionally happen. Please make sure your mailbox is sturdy and in good repair. The Township will not be responsible for repairs to mailboxes, fences or shrubs placed within the legally defined rights-of-ways of its roads, unless they are actually struck by the snow removal equipment.

## My lawn or landscaping was damaged by the snowplow, what should I do?

As with any objects that are placed within the legal road right of way by the property owner, the Township will not be responsible for correction or replacement if so damaged during the course of snow removal.

Your Township snow removal personnel are responsible for over 55 miles of roadway with the state crews being responsible for an additional 25 miles of roadways within the Township. Our truck operators are human, and during a storm they work long hours trying to do their best for the benefit of all.



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