SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL POLICY

POLICY

It is the goal and intent of the town to provide timely and effective winter maintenance, snow removal and ice control on the town's roadways for the safety and benefit of the town's residents and general motoring public.

PROCEDURE

The objective stated above will be achieved and executed by the procedures and tasks outlined in the Town of Barrington's Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy. Due to the many variables in New England Weather each storm or weather event may require a slightly different effort on determining the overall winter snow removal and ice control strategy.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

It is not possible to maintain a black or ice-free surface during storm events. It is the intention of the town to provide as safe as practical travel during the storm event given the conditions at the time.

PLOW ROUTE

The plow routes range from eight to twelve miles depending on the location or the route from the highway garage. The routes are designed so that each route can be covered in four hours or less. With this in mind, if the truck starts plowing with two inches on the ground by the time the truck finishes its route three or four hours later there is the potential for up to six to eight inches of snow back at the start of the route. The first priority, depending on the storm event, is to keep the roads on the school bus routes in the best possible condition during travel hours and to maintain the most traveled roads during commuting hours.

FREEZING RAIN STORMS

Freezing rainstorms are the biggest challenge. During a freezing rainstorm salt and sand have very little affect. There is very little the Barrington Highway Department can do to change road conditinos during freezing rainstorms. There is very little the Barrington Highway Department can do to change road conditions during freezing rainstorms.

COMMAND

Direction of all winter maintenance activities for the Town of Barrington is vested with the Road Agent or his/her designee.

EXECUTION

The Policy outlined above is intended to serve as a normal operating guideline for winter maintenance, snow removal and ice control for the Town of Barrington. One or more of the following may delay or prevent the implementation of this policy:

- Equipment breakdown
- Snow accumulation in excess of one inch per hour
- Freezing rain or other icing conditions
- Traffic congestion
- Emergencies
- Personnel illness

PARKING

The Town of Barrington has a year round parking ordinance. During the winter months, maintenance crews require unobstructed snow removal and ice control routes to maintain the maximum effectiveness of their efforts. Vehicles obstructing snow and ice removal operations will be towed at the direction of the Police Department.

DAMAGE TO PRIVATE PROPERTY

The Town of Barrington is not responsible for damage to private property that is located within the public right-of-way. The right-of-way can be up to fifty feet wide and is often confused by property owners as their own property. In most cases the right-of-way extends ten to twenty feet on either side of the paved or gravel road. Homeowners often cultivate extensions of their lawns, place mailboxes, erect fences or stonewalls in the areas which can obstruct maintenance being done on the roadway. In the event of property damage, the Town of Barrington will not be responsible for damage of obstructions in the right-of-way.

PLACEMENT OF SNOW

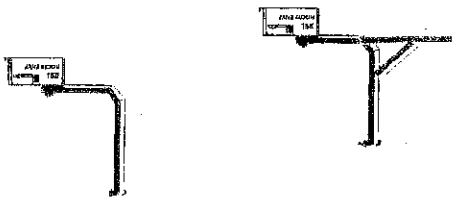
The Town of Barrington has an Ordinance against snow being plowed, shoveled, blown or placed onto a town road or across the road to the opposite side. The Police Department will do enforcement.

POST STORM

As determined by the Road Agent, the snow banks resulting from previous storm accumulations shall be pushed back on shelved to make space for future snowstorms.

MAIL BOXES

Mail and newspaper boxes are allowed at the owner's risk within the right-of-way for the purpose of convenience. The United States Postal Bulletin states: the postal service suggests using a semi arched or extended arm support which allows snowplows to sweep near or under the mailboxes without damaging supports and provides easy access to the mailboxes by carriers and customers. The following are suggestions for resolving the possibility of damage and liability.



1. mailboxes should, whenever possible, be installed a minimum of at least three feet from the edge of the pavement.
2. installation should be sufficiently sturdy to withstand the weight of heavy snow resulting from plowing operations.

TRASH

There are residents that have their trashed picked up. When you set your trash out for pick-up, it should be at least ten feet in your driveway from the edge of the pavement. The town will not be responsible for any damage done to the buckets or bags and will not pick up any trash resulting from snowplow operations.

Approved: April 20, 2009