

SNOW REGULATIONS & WINTER GUIDE

for Brookline Property Owners, Businesses and Residents

Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works clears snow and ice from approximately 250 lane miles of roadway and 40 miles of sidewalk. In addition, the Department is responsible for the clearing of snow from ten public schools, twenty municipal parking lots and all of the public parks and paths. Snow plowing operations remain underway until all roadways are cleared adequately for the safety of the traveling public. **Immediately after a storm, snow banks are pushed back to the curb line in order to provide for adequate storage space for future storms.** Please consider this timetable when you open your driveways or clear your front walkways and sidewalks so that you may not be disappointed when a snowplow passes by after the snow has stopped falling.

Snow and Ice - Removal from Sidewalks

The by-law requires property owners to "maintain sidewalks contiguous to their property in a non-slippery condition suitable for pedestrian travel by clearing all snow and ice from a pathway at least thirty-six (36) inches in width". The Town of Brookline will continue to enforce this by-law to ensure the safe passage of pedestrians within the Town.

Single family and residential buildings occupied by fewer than five families must comply with this by-law within 30 hours of a storm's end. Multi-family property owners and businesses must comply within 3 hours. If you fail to comply with the Town's sidewalk by-law, you could be issued fines ranging from \$25.00-\$100.00 per day.

Have you Shoveled?

If you own a property or business please remember to do the following:

- ◆ Maintain all sidewalks abutting your property or business in a non-slippery condition free of ice and snow.
- ◆ If you are out of town, or unable to clear ice and snow because of physical limitations, please be sure to have someone else prepared to maintain the sidewalk for you.
- ◆ Clear openings at intersections and crosswalks so pedestrians can cross safely.
- ◆ Always have a supply of ice-melt (CaCl₂ or KCL) on hand and apply frequently after a storm and during the winter season to prevent snow from packing down and forming ice.
- ◆ Whenever possible, please help to assist your Public Safety Departments by clearing catch basins and snow covered fire hydrants adjacent to your property. Remember, every second counts during an emergency.

Snow Emergency Line: 617-730-2610

SNOW EMERGENCY/PARKING BAN

Parking Ban - Snow Emergency

During a declared snow emergency/parking ban, there is NO on street parking in the Town of Brookline. This includes all parking meters regardless of overnight parking permits.

Residents with permits to park overnight in Town-owned lots are not required to move their vehicles until 9am after the parking ban is lifted.

Reporting Snow Issues (Unplowed/Icy Streets or Sidewalks)

- ◆ Call the Snow Emergency Line: 617-730-2610
- ◆ Go to www.brooklinema.gov. Click on Report a Concern to report the snow issue.
- ◆ Use your Smartphone. Download the BrookONline App. (See pg. 5 for details.)

Public Notifications (Snow emergencies/Parking Bans will be Publicized on:)

- ◆ www.Brooklinema.gov
- ◆ Snow emergency Line: 617-730-2610
- ◆ www.facebook.com/BrooklineDPW
- ◆ Brookline Interactive Group (formerly BATV) Comcast Ch.23 RCN Ch.15
- ◆ WBZ-TV / 10:30 AM boston.cbslocal.com
- ◆ WCVB Ch.5 wcvb.com
- ◆ WHDH Ch.7 whdh.com
- ◆ WFXT Ch. 25 myfoxboston.com



Register online at www.brooklinema.gov to receive emergency notifications.



Please do not call the Police or Fire Department for parking bans, as your call may tie up Public Safety Personnel.

Shovel Our Snow Program

Shovel Our Snow, sponsored by Brookline Recreation, provides Brookline residents the opportunity to hire students to assist with snow removal. As this is a referral program, it is the responsibility of the home owner and/or student (or their parent) to negotiate the details for their commitment with regards to time, amount of space to be cleared and compensation for the work. Please note, students are available after school and weekends, not during school hours. To register and for more information, please visit www.brooklinerec.com or call 617-730-2069.



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Recycling During Snow Season

To keep your trash and recycling service running smoothly during the snow season, follow these simple rules:

- ◆ Shovel a path for your recycling toter and trash barrel
- ◆ Keep these containers off patches of ice for safety
- ◆ Make sure recycling toters and trash barrels are clear of snow
- ◆ Put your toter and trash barrel as close to the street as possible – not behind snow banks. Toters will not be picked up behind snow banks!
- ◆ Leave a 4' space on either side of your barrel and recycling toter allowing easy access by trucks with automated arms.

YES



YES



YES



NO



Homeowners, management companies, and businesses are responsible for informing their snow contractors not to put snow in the street or sidewalk. Fines will be issued! Snow should be placed on your property.

It's a COURTESY! It's the LAW!

IMPORTANT BY-LAWS

Obstruction of Public Way

Property owners are responsible for maintaining parts of the public right of way adjacent to their properties, including the sidewalk and planting strip or tree lawn. Overgrown trees and shrubs endanger everyone when they block the view of traffic signs, signals, vehicles and people or block a path or walkway. Trimming vegetation and care for street trees, private or public, are effective ways that citizens and Public Works respectively can enhance neighborhood safety.

As set forth in the Brookline Town By-laws Section 7.5.11, ***the obstruction of a public sidewalk by any type of material is prohibited.*** You are required to either trim, prune or remove the vegetation from your property and the tree lawn, with the exception of public street trees, at your expense, to insure the safety of the public. We request that all vegetation maintain a height clearance of 8 feet over sidewalks.

Residents are not permitted to prune public street trees.

Leafblowers - noise limits and a seasonal ban

Existing Town by-laws require that any portable leaf blower used in the Town have a manufacturer's sticker (as shown) or a DPW sticker certifying a noise level of no more than 67 dBA. Leaf blowers can only be operated during the hours of 8 am - 8 pm Monday to Friday, and 9 am - 8 pm Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.



In addition, the use of gasoline powered leaf blowers is prohibited from May 15 to September 15 and from December 15 to March 15. Other than the Town, the only exemption is for non-residential properties of at least 5 acres. This by-law became effective in June 2012.

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It's the LAW!