Avoid the “Second Shovel”

People can play a part in ensuring the ends of their driveways remain clear of snow even after a snowplow comes through. Shoveling a “corner” of the right-of-way free of snow in the area several feet before the driveway will help keep that same snow from being pushed into the driveway in an icy, heavy pile. Clearing an area large enough to hold the snow coming off the plow may help reduce the “second shovel.”
Newton DPW is responsible for:

Clearing more than 320 miles of roadways, 80+ miles of sidewalks, approximately 43 city-owned buildings (including 21 school sites), 15 city-owned public parking lots, streets and sidewalks, over 22 bridges, areas adjacent to 70+ school bus stops, 35+ MBTA bus stops, 10 T-Stops, and three Commuter rail stops.

What Can You Do to Help?

- Keep a distance of 100’ behind all plow vehicles.
- Shovel out fire hydrants, catch basins, ramps, and corners on your street.
- Check on neighbors or other residents who may be in need.
- Don’t park within 20 feet of an intersection, or further than 1 foot from the curb.
- Cars parked in driveways must not overhang the sidewalk or street.
- Do not park in crosswalks, or in front of fire hydrants and ramps.
- Take extra precautions near school bus stops where children may be waiting without parental supervision.

Trash & Recycling Collection

Trash and recycling collection service may be cancelled due to road conditions during and after a storm. In the event trash and recycling collection is cancelled, check the City’s website.

Make trash and recycling accessible by clearing an area at the curb or placing containers next to snowbanks. Make sure to leave a 4” space on either side of the barrels for automated pick-up.

NEW Snow Removal Fines

In order to ensure the safe passage of pedestrians throughout the City, the City of Newton requires all property owners or occupants of a building to maintain all paved and concrete sidewalks and curb ramps abutting their property or business in a non-slippery condition free of ice and snow within 24 hours of snow ending. Sidewalks must be cleared to create a 36” path to meet accessibility requirements, provided that if a sidewalk is less than 36’ inches in width the passageway shall encompass its entire width.

Annual exemptions from the sidewalk clearing requirement are available for citizens who upon written petition demonstrate hardship due to a combination of health and financial duress, or religious circumstances. Please contact the Department of Senior Services at 617-796-1660 for more information.

Residents and business owners can be issued fines for violation of this requirement. Fines can be issued each day until the violation is addressed.

Residential properties:

- 1st Offense per 365 period - written warning
- 2nd and subsequent offenses per 365 day period - $50

Commercial, institutional, or residential properties with more than four dwelling units:

- 1st Offense - $100
- 2nd Offense - $200
- 3rd and subsequent offenses in a calendar year - $300

See City Ordinances sections 26-8(d) and 17-3 at newtonma.gov for details.

Winter Restrictions

Annual Overnight Parking Ban

Dates/Times: 12/1 through 3/31, 2 am – 6 am

It is unlawful for any vehicle to be parked on any street, way, highway, road, parkway or private way dedicated or open to the use of the public for longer than one hour. Violators will be towed and subject to a $ 25.00 fine. PARKING REGULATIONS ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED DURING SNOW EMERGENCIES. VIOLATORS ARE SUBJECT TO TICKETING AND TOWING.

During the winter months, permit parking is available in municipal lots except during snow emergencies. Permits may be obtained through the Newton Police Department.

Other Restrictions

No person shall place snow or ice upon a street, sidewalk or bridge, except that snow or ice removed from a sidewalk may be piled in the adjoining gutter or on the loam border between the sidewalk and the street.

The owner or occupant of property whose driveway or sidewalk is cleared of snow shall be responsible for promptly removing snow placed on the public way adjoining the owner's property as a result of clearing snow from the driveway or sidewalk of the owner "Clearing snow" includes plowing, shoveling, sweeping and any other similar means of removing snow from the driveway or sidewalk.

Fines for placing or permitting snow or ice on a public way (street, sidewalk or bridge)

First offense in calendar year $100.00
Second offense in calendar year $200.00
Third offense and subsequent offenses in calendar year $300.00