



## We'll do our part to keep streets passable...

The DPW will clear the streets as soon as possible. Our goals are to chemically treat all major arteries within three hours of when snow begins, to keep main arteries plowed during all stages of a storm, and to clear all streets and the sidewalks bordering City property once a storm has stopped. Staff clear over 18 miles of sidewalk areas including those around schools, public buildings, parks and high volume bus stops.

### ... please do yours

#### **When Parking**

- Pay attention to "No Parking" signs during snow emergencies. Four parking facilities provide free off-street parking during declared snow emergencies: Galleria Mall in East Cambridge, First Street garage on Spring Street, Green Street garage in Central Square, and Harvard University's 52 Oxford Street garage.
- Always park at least 20 feet from the street corner so plows can push snow away from crosswalk. Parking away from the corner improves visibility and safety year-round.

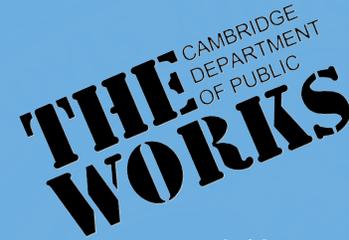
#### **When Shoveling**

- When digging out your car, think about how you pile snow: don't create new problems in the street or sidewalk.
- Please don't take it personally if the DPW plows push snow back into your driveway or parked car. This is really unavoidable as we work to keep streets passable during all stages of a storm.
- It is illegal to "reserve" cleared parking spaces; objects left in on-street parking spaces will be removed.
- Think safety: dig out fire hydrants and street drains.

**Together, we'll get the job done.**



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## We're All in This Together: A Guide to Snow & Ice Clearance in Cambridge



### **Cambridge Department of Public Works**

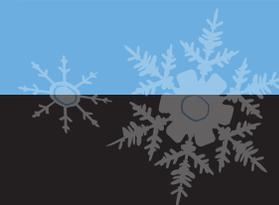
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# Clearing Sidewalk Snow and Ice:

## It's the neighborly thing to do...

Snow and ice make travel difficult for all pedestrians, but for children, elders, and people with disabilities wintertime travel can be more than just difficult: it can be dangerous or impossible. We all have a shared responsibility for keeping our community safe and accessible during winter weather.

## ... and it's the law.

### Cambridge Ordinance requires that all property owners:

- *Remove snow from all sidewalks next to their property or business within 12 hours after snow stops falling in the daytime, and before 1 p.m. when the snow has fallen during the night.*
  - Make the path wide enough for someone using wheelchair, walker or stroller (at least 3 feet, preferably 4 feet).
  - If you are on a corner, don't forget to shovel the side-street sidewalk and to clear ramps at crosswalks.

- *Remove or melt all ice within 6 hours of the time the ice forms.*
  - **Stock up on ice melter before a storm.**
  - **Use ice melter with calcium chloride** (CaCl<sub>2</sub>), which is the best choice for the environment and only a small amount is required to melt ice. Potassium chloride (KCl) is okay, too.
  - **Avoid rock salt** (NaCl or sodium chloride), which kills plants and trees.
  - **Do not use sand.** It doesn't help pedestrians; but it makes hard ice more slippery. It gets into street drains and is expensive to clean up in the spring.
  - **Remember** that, for people on foot, ice can be worse than snow. It can cause dangerous falls. You are as responsible for ice as you are for snow.
- *The fine for failing to comply with the City's sidewalk clearance ordinances is \$35 a day. Even if you aren't around, it is your responsibility to ensure someone clears sidewalks and ramps next to your property.*
- *You can report the address of unshoveled or icy sidewalks to the Snow Hotline, 617-349-4903 or email [snow@cambridgema.gov](mailto:snow@cambridgema.gov).*

## Need Help?

If you are a homeowner on a low income (\$22,947 or less for a one-person household in 2007) and you are elderly or disabled, you may qualify for the City's Snow Exemption Program (in which case the City will shovel your sidewalk).

To apply, call the Cambridge Council on Aging, 617-349-6220 (voice) or 617-349-6050 (TTY).

If you do not qualify, the Council on Aging can provide you with a limited list of professional snow removal companies and a list of students who want to earn money by shoveling – you contact the student yourself and negotiate a price.



This publication has been produced in collaboration with the Cambridge Pedestrian Committee and the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.