TOWN OF SCITUATE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

SNOW REMOVAL PRIORITIES & POLICY

PRIORITIES:

1. The DPW's **first priority** is to ensure that police, fire and medical emergency equipment can move safely on Town streets.
2. The DPW's **second priority** is to open main and secondary roads for use by the public.
3. The DPW's **third priority** is to open residential streets. (Because of budget considerations, it may take additional time before some residential streets are opened.)
4. The DPW's **fourth priority** is to clear sidewalks used to walk to schools.

POLICY:

1. **Driveways:** Snow from driveways may not remain on public streets. If it is necessary to push snow onto the street when clearing a driveway or private way, the snow must be subsequently plowed into the windrows on either side of the street. Persons depositing snow in the street are subject to a $50 fine per day for creating a hazardous condition. (Bylaw 30150, Article D).
2. **Plowing residential streets and ways:** By Massachusetts law the Department of Public Works is permitted to spend public funds only on publicly accepted streets (MGL Chapter 40, Section 6C.) While the DPW will continue the current practice of insuring passage of emergency vehicles on all streets, over the next several months the Town will be reviewing its current policies relative to cost and snow removal on non-accepted streets.
3. **Liability:** The Town is not responsible for damage to private property (cars, mailboxes, hockey nets, etc.) or private improvements (grassy areas, irrigation systems, fences, shrubs, steps, etc.) that fall within the public street layout. The public street layout is generally 40' wide.
4. **Sump pumps:** Residents may not deposit water onto the street thereby creating an icing hazard. Violations will result in a fine of $50 per day until corrected. (Bylaw 30150, Article D)
5. **On-street parking:** The Highway Department requests that cars not be parked on the street during storms to expedite snow removal activities and reduce potential damage to vehicles. Once a Snow Emergency is declared by the Police Department, vehicles parked on the street are subject to fines and towing at the owners' expense. (Bylaw 30150, Article E)
6. **Private plowing:** Contractors plowing for the Town shall not plow driveways, etc., while on duty with the Town.
7. **Fire Hydrants:** The Fire Department requests that residents remove snow from around nearby fire hydrants to improve the safety of their property.
8. **Street Catch Basins:** The Highway Department requests that residents remove snow and debris from nearby street drainage catch basins to reduce flooding.