Town Of Newbury
Highway Department
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SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS NOTICE

January 2016

To All Residents of Newbury:

The Highway Department would like to present to the residents of Newbury the following information in order to help prepare for winter snow and ice control operations. We hope this information is helpful and will assist you in understanding our program.

The primary goal of the Highway Department during a winter storm is to remove snow and ice from town streets as rapidly as possible. Safety and mobility for the residents of our community is our overriding goal. Snow and ice operations in Newbury are performed by both town personnel and by contractors hired by the town. Operations are planned based on a variety of factors including temperature, time of day, traffic conditions, rate of snowfall, the height of tides where applicable and the weather forecast. Therefore, not all storms are addressed in the same manner. We evaluate all of the available information and direct our operations based on our analysis and with public safety as our number one criteria. Protecting our public infrastructure, including roads, drainage systems and other public assets is also a high priority in determining the allocation of resources during a winter storm.

We understand that many times residents may have questions regarding the assignment of plows during a storm. We respectfully request that any inquires be made of the Highway Department after the winter storm has subsided. During any winter storm, we must place our priority on assigning all available personnel to snow and ice operations. After a storm, we will do our best to respond to you in a timely fashion.

To assist residents in planning for winter weather, we suggest that the following precautions be taken:

1. Please check your vehicle and make sure it is prepared for winter weather. Check all tires, wiper blades, defroster, and fluids and keep a small amount of sand and a scraper in your vehicle.

2. When driving in a winter storm, please reduce your speed and beware of icing conditions and any snow and ice operations. Please do not try and

pass any vehicle engaged in snow and ice operations. Remember that speed limits are posted for ideal driving conditions. In a winter storm drivers should proceed at speeds well below the posted speed limit.

3. Though we are a small town, Newbury is a large area with seventy miles of roadway and approximately 25 square miles for plow operators to cover. Please allow sufficient time for the town's snow and ice operations to complete our tasks and only travel during a winter storm when absolutely necessary.

4. When a winter storm is forecast, please remove your vehicle from any town road. This will facilitate our snow and ice operations.

5. Shoveling or plowing snow from driveways into town streets is not only illegal but can also cause serious traffic hazards. Please remove snow from your driveways in a manner that is compliant with the law and which is respectful of your fellow residents.

6. Mailboxes installed in a town right-of-way are placed at the owner's risk.

7. The town does not plow private streets or driveways. The only exception to this policy is an emergency situation. The Highway Department will clear any area at the request of the Fire or Police Department.

8. As of this writing the town has a winter parking ban. Parking of vehicles on Newbury's streets is prohibited between midnight and 6:00 a.m. from December 1st to April 1st. Any vehicle in violation of this restriction will be towed. Please refer to the Town of Newbury Bylaws, §93-15.

9. In the case of a plowing emergency which requires the immediate attention of the Highway Department during a winter storm, please call the Newbury Police Department at (978) 465-3737. The Newbury Police Department is operational twenty-four hours per day and will be able to contact the appropriate Highway Department personnel during a storm.

We hope this information is helpful and will assist in making the winter season a safe and enjoyable one for all of us. We appreciate the cooperation we have received from residents in the past and we look forward to providing you with a timely and responsive service.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Sarette

James Sarette
Director
Newbury Highway Director