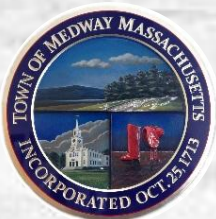


Town of Medway

# Snow & Ice Management Policy

## Quick Guide



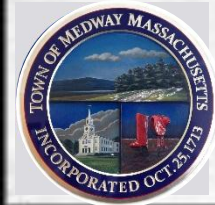
January 2026



# Overview

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- ✱ Provide safe streets and sidewalks during snow and ice events and emergencies
- ✱ Responsibility of the Dept. of Public Works (DPW)
- ✱ Only salt for overnight freeze-ups, ice, and minor wet snowstorms
- ✱ Plowing and potentially salting performed during more significant storms
- ✱ Emergency work performed anytime, day or night, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



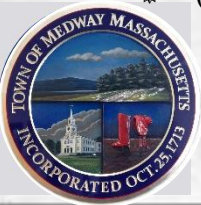


# Operations Facts

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- ✱ Over 100 miles of road and cul-de-sacs
- ✱ Town owned fleet of 29 vehicles
- ✱ Primary drivers and mechanics in DPW Highway and Fleet Maintenance Division
- ✱ Secondary support
  - ✱ DPW Water & Sewer, Parks, Building Maintenance, and Cemetery Divisions
- ✱ Contractors added for major storms
- ✱ Use approximately 2500 tons of salt in de-icing operations annually

✱ (Based on average of total salt used between 2020 – 2025).





# Response Objectives

- ✿ Medway endorses bare pavement policy
  - ✓ When weather conditions permit, use salt early to ensure easier removal of pack snow
  - ✓ Roads generally rut free and smooth
  - ✓ Major routes show pavement shortly after storm ends
  - ✓ Neighborhood roads with light traffic plowed yet may be snow covered for days
- ✿ Push back snow off roadway to maintain road width and open catch basins
- ✿ Clear intersections for visibility as needed
- ✿ Minimize environmental impact





# Minimizing Environmental Impact

- ❖ Reduce the use of deicing material overall by:
  - ✓ Adapt road treatment application to the conditions of the storm
  - ✓ Adjust treatment to site-specific characteristics
- ❖ Proper deicing material storage
- ❖ Proper snow storage location
- ❖ Annual staff training on best management practices





# Response Plan

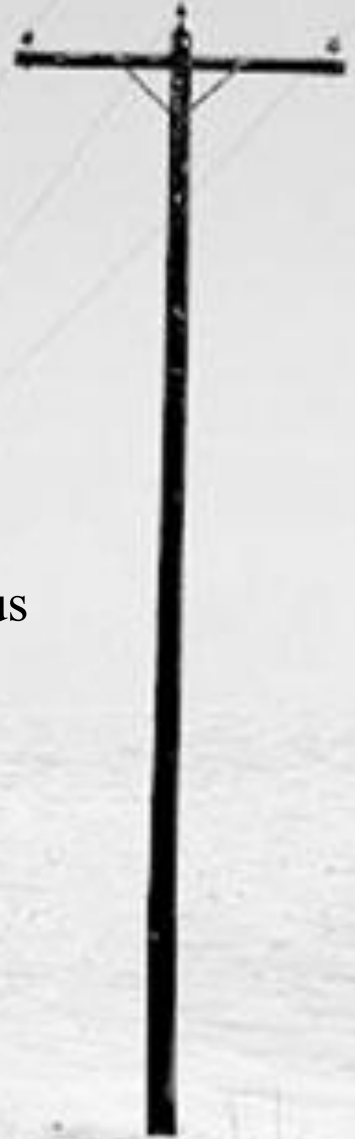
- ✿ Police Dept. in conjunction with Highway Superintendent evaluate road conditions
- ✿ Overnight freezing or light snow
  - ✓ Salt only
  - ✓ Primary operators DPW Highway and Fleet Maintenance
- ✿ Minor storms with minor traffic impacts
  - ✓ Generally 2 to 3 inches of snow requiring plowing
  - ✓ Secondary support from DPW Water & Sewer, Parks, Building Maintenance, Cemetery Division
- ✿ All storms with serious commuting impacts
  - ✓ Contractors used to supplement Town forces





# Completion Time

- ✿ Typically complete primary response 2 to 3 hours after most snow accumulation has stopped
- ✿ **Completion time depends on many factors**
- ✿ Moisture content of the snow
  - ✓ Dry/fluffy snow = less salt and plowing
  - ✓ Heavy/wet snow = more salt and plowing
  - ✓ Wet snow and freezing road temperatures create dangerous driving conditions
- ✿ Duration
  - ✓ A four-inch storm in 24 hours is more demanding than a six-inch storm in 8 hours





# Completion Time (con't)

## ✿ Timing of the storm

- ✓ Late night/early morning storms provide extra time to clear roads
- ✓ Commuting hour storms result in packed snow making plowing more difficult
- ✓ December/January low sun lengthens melt times
- ✓ February/March higher sun shortens melt times

## ✿ Other factors increasing response time

- ✓ Freezing rain mix
- ✓ Wind and blowing snow
- ✓ Road surface temperature below freezing





# Priorities

- ✿ Public safety and travel volumes determine priority
- ✿ Priority 1
  - ✓ Major roadways servicing largest volumes of commuters given top priority
  - ✓ Major intersections
  - ✓ School bus routes
  - ✓ Steep grades
- ✿ Priority 2
  - ✓ Secondary connector roads
- ✿ Priority 3
  - ✓ Neighborhood roads, side streets, cul-de-sacs will be done as time and conditions permit





# Priorities (con't)

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- ✿ Priority 4
  - ✓ Parking and access to municipal/school facilities
- ✿ Priority 5
  - ✓ Sidewalks
- ✿ No work done on private property or private ways

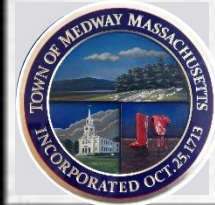




# Sidewalks

❁ Sidewalks on roads listed below are primary and serviced by the Town as soon as practical.

- Barber Street
- Center Street
- Pond Street
- Broad Street
- Legion Avenue
- Sanford Street
- Cassidy Street
- North Street
- School Street
- Highland Street where sidewalks exist
- Oakland Street where sidewalks exist
- Village St. from Center St. to Oakland St.
- Holliston St. from Village St. to Ellis St.
- Lovering St. from Holliston St. to Lovering Heights
- Main St. from Highland St. to Oakland St.
- Maple St. from Lovering St. to Delmar Rd.
- Summer St. from Milford St. to Holliston Town Line





# Sidewalks (con't)

✿ In addition, the following routes may be done as time and equipment permit:

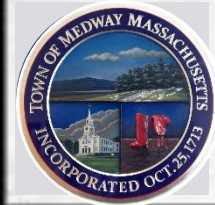
- Cottage Street
- High Street
- Lincoln Street
- Main Street from Highland Street to Bellingham Town Line
- Milford Street from Main Street to Summer Street
- Summer Street from Main Street to Milford Street
- Village Street from Center Street to Franklin Street
- Village Street from Island Road to Oakland Street
- Franklin Street from Waterview Circle to Main Street
- West Street from Glen Brook Apartments to Main Street





# Sidewalks (con't)

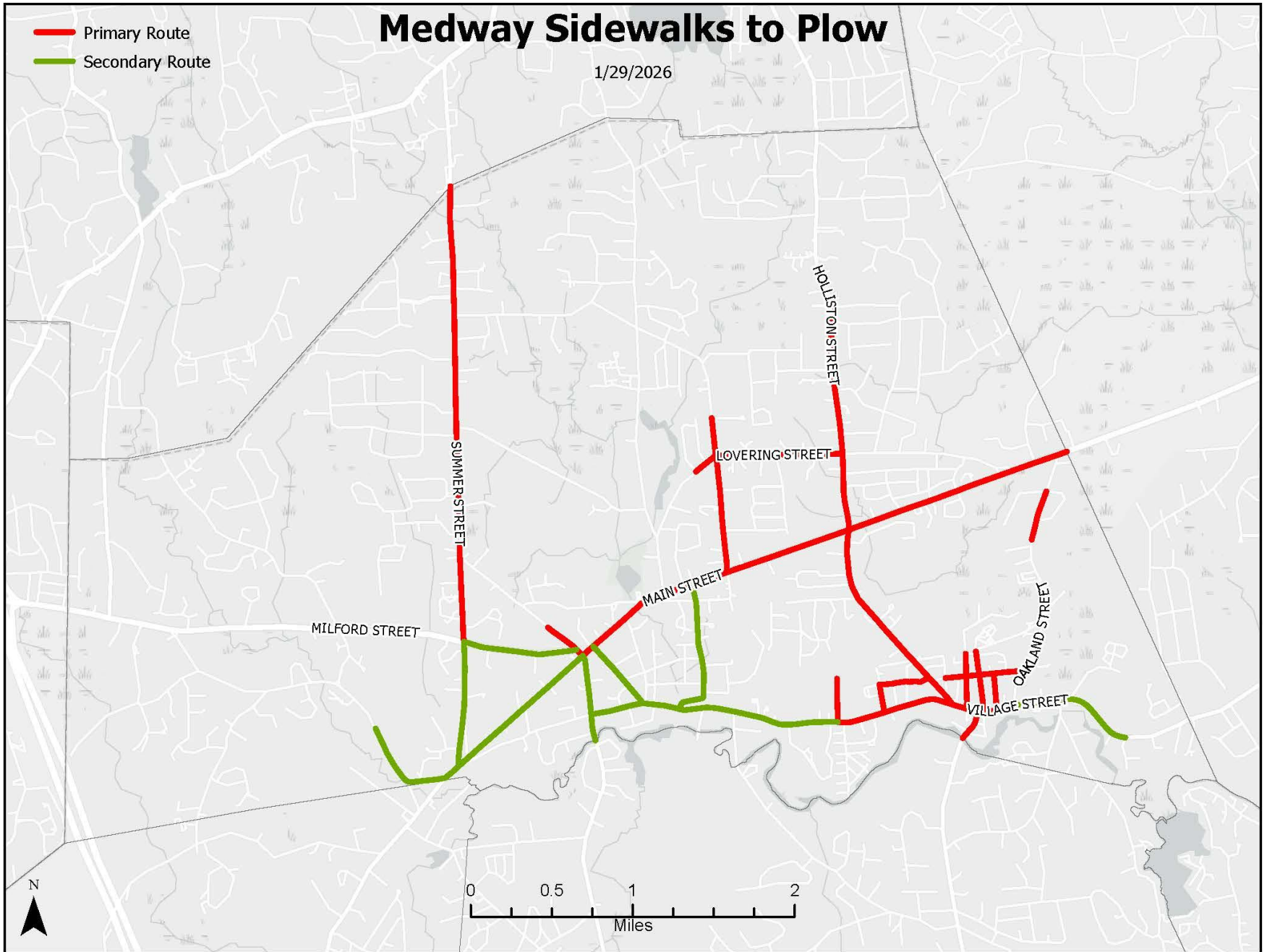
- ✿ Sidewalks are lowest priority
- ✿ May not be cleared for days following a storm
- ✿ DPW crews are not required to salt sidewalks
- ✿ Sidewalks on streets not listed are the responsibility of residents and businesses
  - ✓ Clear areas in front of your property and beyond
  - ✓ Help neighbors who are not able
  - ✓ Take responsibility, take ownership, take pride
  - ✓ Make your neighborhood a better, safer place



# Medway Sidewalks to Plow

1/29/2026

- Primary Route
- Secondary Route





# Municipal Facilities Serviced

- Town Hall
- Police Station
- Library
- Parks and Rec Building
- Thayer House
- Evergreen Cemetery
- Fire Stations
- Senior Center
- Water Treatment Plant & wells
- Choate Park & Oakland Park
- Jacob Ide House
- Medway Schools parking lots



## Service includes

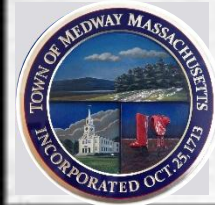
- ✓ Salting and plowing parking areas
- ✓ Clearing and salting walkways and entry ways at all facilities except schools who use own staff





# Property Damage Liability

- ✿ Town is responsible for damage caused to private property on private property in full
- ✿ Town has a mailbox damage policy
  - ✓ Damage caused by municipal plowing operations
  - ✓ \$50 flat rate compensation regardless of actual cost
  - ✓ Only one claim accepted annually
  - ✓ Consider relocating a mailbox damaged regularly
- ✿ Town not liable for any fence, shrub, toy, or any other object left in the public right-of-way
- ✿ Damaged lawns in the public way may be loamed and seeded by DPW if funds permit





# We Need Your Help

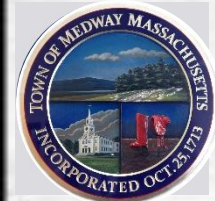
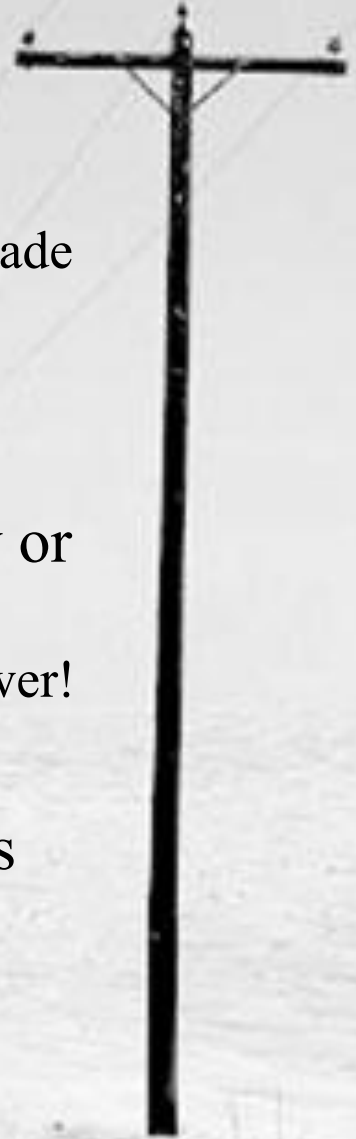
- ✿ Clear catch basins to:
  - ✓ allow melting snow/rain to leave the road surface
  - ✓ avoid icing and flooding
- ✿ Clear fire hydrants
- ✿ Clear path to mailboxes
- ✿ Clear sidewalks in front of your property that the Town doesn't handle
- ✿ Avoid parking in roads until plowing is over
  - ✓ Obey the parking bans and never park on a sidewalk





# Need Your Help (con't)

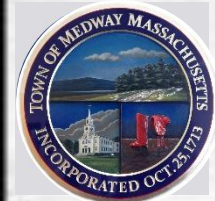
- ❁ Clear driveway entrances
  - ✓ Tips: Wait until plowing is over. Snow at the entrance stops snow from shedding off the plow blade and onto your property
  - Always clear to the right when facing the road to keep snow away from your property
- ❁ On trash days, keep bags and carts on your property or curbside off the sidewalk.
  - ✓ It's not pretty after they go through the sidewalk snowblower!
  - ✓ Good idea for newspaper deliveries too.
- ❁ Put up markers near the edge of pavement to help us “see” the road





# Be Considerate, Be Safe

- ✿ Don't stand in the plow's path
  - ✓ For safety, roads need to be cleared curb-to-curb
  - ✓ It slows down the process
  
- ✿ Do not throw or plow snow into or across roads
  - ✓ It is against the law
  - ✓ It is dangerous and you bear the liability
  - ✓ It makes your neighbors angry
  
- ✿ Slow down and expect the trip to take longer
  - ✓ Roads will not be bare, there will be ruts, pack snow, and ice during and after the storm on any road, anywhere.





# More Information

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- ✿ Contact the Dept. of Public Works
  - ✓ Normal office hours at 508-533-3275
  - ✓ Nights / weekends during a storm at 508-533-3212
  
- ✿ Storm watch and school closings
  - ✓ Local TV stations
  - ✓ Town website and social media

