

**TOWN OF BRANFORD  
SNOW REMOVAL POLICY  
(Revised 1/3/15)**

Help us, Help you

With winter upon us, the Town of Branford Public Works Department is asking for your cooperation in assisting to provide maximum service to all our residents in helping us keep our roads safe.

**Parking:** During snow storms there is “**No Parking**” on the even numbered side of the road by *Town Ordinance (sec 223-1 & sec 223-2)*. Vehicles parked on the even side of the road will be asked to move so snow plows can get down the roads. Failure to move a vehicle could result in having it towed at the owner’s expense.

**Parking Ban:** During a substantial snowfall a parking ban may be enacted which would require no parking on both sides of the road. Parking bans announcements will be made through the local media.

**Sidewalks:** Town ordinance states that property owners are responsible for cleaning all snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property within eight hours of the end of the snowfall or precipitation (*sec 216-42*). The Public Works Department suggest that residents wait until Town plows have pushed back snow to curb line before clearing sidewalk areas. This generally happens after snow has stopped.

**Road Hazards:** Residents and private contractors should take note that *Town Ordinance* prohibits snow to be placed on any public highway in such a manner as to impede or inconvenience travel on any roadway (*sec 216-42b*).

**Contractors:** Residents are also responsible **for their contractor’s actions**. Residents or private contractors will also be held responsible for any curb damage done as a result of plowing snow across roadways.

**Driveways:** Residents should also keep in mind that snow plows are designed to remove snow from the roadway to the edge of the road. It is likely that the plow will leave behind a windrow of snow in front of the driveways. Residents are responsible for removing the snow.

**Mailboxes:** The Public Works Department suggest residents make certain their mailboxes are at least 42 inches above the roadway and set back slightly from the edge of the road so that postal carriers can reach it, behind either the face of the curb or the edge of the road. Our department does not replace mailboxes that are displaced by snow or slush from plows. If contact with a plow can be shown, then it would be replaced.

**§ 216-42. Snow and ice removal.****A. Snow and ice removal. [Amended 3-12-1997]**

- (1) The owner, tenant, occupant or any person having the care of any land or building adjoining any sidewalk or gutter shall, after the cessation of any storm of snow, ice or sleet, if in the daytime, within eight hours, and if in the night, before 11:00 a.m. in the forenoon succeeding, cause the same to be removed from so much of such sidewalk as shall be paved, concreted, cemented or worked. If the same cannot be wholly removed as required by this section, the owner, tenant, occupant or person having the care of such land shall sprinkle and keep thereon sand or other proper substance so that such sidewalk shall be and remain safe for travel, until such time as said snow, ice or sleet can be thoroughly removed therefrom when it shall be the duty of the owner, tenant, occupant or persons having the care of such land to forthwith remove the same.
- (2) After the expiration of the time limited as aforesaid for removing such snow, ice or sleet, the Selectmen shall cause the same to be removed and the expense thereof shall be a lien upon the premises adjoining such sidewalk. The Selectmen shall cause a certificate of lien to be recorded in the Town Clerk's office within 60 days from the completion of such removal.

**B. No property owner shall permit snow or ice, removed from his property, to be placed on any public highway of the Town of Branford in such manner or to such an extent as to unreasonably impede or cause inconvenience to travel on the public highways in the Town of Branford. [Amended 3-12-1997]**

**C. Drainage of roofs and paved areas, yards and courts, sump pumps and footing drains and other open areas on any property owner's property shall not be discharged in a manner that creates a public nuisance. For purposes of this subsection, "public nuisance" means any discharge as set forth above that causes a health or safety hazard or unreasonably impedes or causes inconvenience to travel of public highways in the Town of Branford. [Added 2-27-2007<sup>s</sup> ]**

**D. Every person or corporation who shall violate any provision of this section shall pay a penalty of \$25 for each such violation. Each day that such violation shall continue shall be considered a separate offense. [Amended 5-14-1996]**

**E. The provisions of Public Act No. 81-340 are hereby adopted and are set forth in Subsection E(1), (2) and (3) below:**

- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 13a-149 of the General Statutes or any other general statutes, or any other general statute or special act, the Town of Branford shall not be liable to any person injured in person or property caused by the presence of ice or snow on a public sidewalk unless the Town of Branford is the owner or the person in possession and control of land abutting such sidewalk, other than land used as a highway or street, provided that the Town of Branford shall be liable for its affirmative acts with respect to such sidewalk.

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5. Editor's Note: This ordinance also redesignated former Subsections C and D as Subsections D and E, respectively.