

Town of Pomfret Snow Plowing Policy

The Pomfret DPW puts safety first and asks residents to do the same. The timing, duration, and intensity of each storm always plays into how and when the roads are cleared and/or salted and sanded. Pomfret's DPW has a great deal of experience and making safe passage in a timely manner is their goal. Please give them room on the roads and avoid unnecessary travel during conditions that call for plowing.

Snowplowing

During snowstorms Town crews will plow based on established routes. Main roads and arteries are plowed first, followed by secondary collectors. Cul-de-sacs are opened, and unimproved (gravel) roads will be cleared last. Cul de Sacs are generally the last residential streets to be cleared as they require alternate equipment and/or a greater time commitment and priority is given to clearing main roadway access. Intersections are opened for better sight lines and all roads are plowed to allow for the best drainage of melting snow.

Mailboxes, fences, stone walls, ornaments, and other objects on the road edge that are damaged by the weight of the snow being plowed are the property owner's responsibility. The Town of Pomfret assumes responsibility only if the snowplow physically damages such an object.

State Roads

Routes 44, 169, 97, 244, 101 and Murdock Road are plowed by the State of Connecticut. Gary School House Road and Modock Road are plowed by the Town of Putnam. Woods Hill Road is plowed by the Town of Brooklyn.

Private Plowing/Residential Snow Removal

Snow that is moved into the roadway from walks or driveways is considered to be a created hazard. Any damages done as a result of snow moved into a roadway will be the property owner's liability.

Parking

During a snowstorm, vehicles left on the roadways are at the owner's responsibility and liability.

Driveways

The Town is not responsible for snow which is deposited in private driveways. Plow operators have very little discretion as to where snow can go. The plow driver's priority is to clear roads to ensure safe travel. If possible, wait until the road has been completely plowed before shoveling the last 5-10 feet of your driveway. This way less snow from the road will end up in your driveway.

If you cannot wait, it is best to place snow on the far side of your driveway away from the direction in which the plow is traveling. In most cases, this means placing the snow on the right side of your driveway as you face the road. This way the plow will carry the snow away from your driveway, rather than back into it. Snowplows do not enter on to private property.

Self-serve Sand

Sand is available to private residents at the DPW Garage / Salt Shed during weekdays between 8 am and 2 pm. There is a 5-gallon pail maximum. Private contractors are strictly prohibited from taking this sand.

Safety Reminders

The flashing lights on snowplows are due the same respect as lights on police vehicles. Give them space on the roads, do not try to pass a snowplow, and do not follow closely.

Do not allow children to play on snowbanks along the side of the street. The Town may need to push back snowbanks days after a storm to create room for the next snow event. Older residents and those with health problems are reminded to avoid the extreme physical activity connected with shoveling snow. Also, snowmobilers, and A.T.V operators are advised those vehicles are not allowed on Town roads or trails at any time.

Questions and or comments should be directed to 860-974-3358 or 860-974-0191. Please do not talk to the drivers.