



Wintertime Message From Your Highway Department

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

The Town of Saugerties Highway Department is responsible for removing snow from 243.15 lane miles of local roads. The Highway Department plows this mileage with over 20 trucks. It takes each driver approximately three hours to complete his assigned route.

When snow accumulation reaches approximately one to two inches, plowing begins. After the storm has ended, the roads are widened to ensure they are passable and to aid in drainage of snow melt. Roads are monitored for icy spots and drifting snow. Generally, salt/sand mixture is applied to all streets to ensure driving safety.

To enable the most expeditious snow removal, we ask all residents to be sure all vehicles, basketball hoops or obstructions are completely off all Town roads per our Town code:

§ 156-1 Loitering.

B. **No person shall** loiter in or upon any public sidewalk, street, bridge, public building or place or obstruct the use thereof so as to prevent free and reasonable access by other members of the public or **prevent the exercise of duties by public officers or employees.**

§ 156-2 Penalties for offenses.

Editor's Note: Added at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I).

A violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$250 or 15 days in jail, or both."

§ 232-9 All-night parking

[Amended 2-17-2010 by L.L. No. 1-2010]

The parking of vehicles is hereby prohibited on all County and Town highways between 3:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. from the 15th day of November to the 15th day of April."

"§ 232-11 Authority to impound vehicles

A. When any vehicle is parked or abandoned on any highway within this Town during a snowstorm, flood, fire or other public emergency which affects that portion of the public highway upon which said vehicle is parked or abandoned, said vehicle may be removed by the authority of the Town of Saugerties Superintendent of Highways, the authority of the Town of Saugerties Police Chief or the authority of the designee of either the Superintendent or the Chief.

B. When any vehicle is found unattended on any highway within this Town where said vehicle constitutes an obstruction to traffic, said vehicle may be removed by the authority of the Town of Saugerties Superintendent

of Highways, the authority of the Town of Saugerties Police Chief or the authority of the designee of either the Superintendent or the Chief.

C. When any vehicle is parked or abandoned on any highway within this Town, except within the corporate limits of the Village of Saugerties, where stopping, standing or parking is prohibited, said vehicle may be removed by the authority of the Town of Saugerties Superintendent of Highways, the authority of the Town of Saugerties Police Chief or the authority of the designee of either the Superintendent or the Chief."

Damage to mailboxes and/or posts is a casualty of snowplowing due to reduced visibility. Usually it is the heavy, wet snow rolling off of the plows that unavoidably damages the mailboxes. Legally, the Town is not responsible for mailbox damage; however, if your box sustains damage, you may call our department after the storm is over and clean up is completed, preferably the following day. If it is determined that our Town plow caused the damage, we will attempt to repair or replace the damage.

During a snow storm, please stay off the road if at all possible. If you must drive, please drive carefully and give snow removal vehicles the right of way.

Before you clean up your driveway, please make sure the snowplows have made their final passes; otherwise, your newly cleared driveway will surely be filled back in. This is not intentional and we will not come back to shovel or plow out your driveway.

Whether you clean your own driveway or hire a contractor, keep in mind the following town code:

"§ 152-2 Depositing trash, snow or other debris in public highways

A. No person shall sweep, throw or deposit, or cause to be swept, thrown or deposited, any ashes, dirt, stone, brick, leaves, grass, weeds, or any other debris or rubbish of any kind, or any water or liquid of any kind except for purposes of cleansing same, into any public highway, street, gutter or public place or upon any sidewalk within the Town.

B. No person shall throw, put, push or place or cause to be thrown, put, pushed or placed, any snow or ice into any public highway, street, public place or thoroughfare in the Town.

C. This section shall not apply to water or liquids running into streets as a result of firefighting or flushing of fire hydrants by authorized personnel or the use in a reasonable manner of ashes, salt or other material for the purpose of reducing the hazard of or providing traction on snow, ice or sleet."

Snow removal is a very arduous task. The Town of Saugerties Highway employees must work very long hours until the job is completed. The cooperation and support of Town of Saugerties residents and businesses is greatly appreciated.

Please be patient. If you have an emergency situation or problem, please feel free to call our office at (845)246-2400 or after our normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 7am - 3pm) the Town of Saugerties Police Department at (845) 246-9800.

Otherwise we would ask that you call when snowplowing operations are completed.

Here are some additional local laws to keep in mind that may affect you personally:

§ 212-2 Removal of snow and ice around fire hydrants

All snow and ice accumulating higher than a point four inches below the bottom of the lowest outlet on any fire hydrant, and within a radius of three feet from the center of such hydrant, shall be removed by the owner and occupant of the premises adjoining the hydrant within a period of 12 hours after the same shall have accumulated or been deposited or within 12 hours after sunrise if the same shall have accumulated during the night. The owner and occupant shall also clear a path having a minimum width of three feet between any fire hydrant and the edge of the traveled portion of the abutting street, highway, private road or drive.

§ 212-3 Penalties for failure to comply

A. Any owner and occupant who fails to comply with the provisions of this article shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine not to exceed \$250 or be imprisoned for a term not to exceed 15 days, or both. Each day that the snow, ice or sleet remains on the sidewalk shall be a separate offense.

B. If, for the safety of pedestrians, it is necessary for the Highway Department to undertake the snow or ice removal, there will be a charge of \$1 a running foot to be paid or placed on the next tax roll.

C. Violations of this article shall be considered violations and/or offenses and not misdemeanors.

Source:

Town of Saugerties Local Law Code:

<http://www.ecode360.com/SA2874>