

Fences and Walls

City snowplow drivers are warned to take all precautions to avoid striking fences and/or walls with the wing of the snowplow. However, fences and/or walls are not permitted within the City's right-of-way.

In the event your fence or wall is damaged by a City snowplow, we ask you to please contact the City's Legal Department at 767-7605 to report the damage. An engineer employed by the City will come out and complete a street line survey to determine if your fence or wall is located on private property or within the City's right-of-way. If your fence or wall is within the City's right-of-way, no reimbursement for damage will be provided. If the fence or wall is located on private property, your claim will be forwarded to the City's insurance carrier for resolution. In no event will newspaper boxes be repaired or reset.

Mailboxes

City snowplow drivers are warned to take all precautions to avoid striking mailboxes. However, Maine law views mailboxes as an encroachment in the public right-of-way, put there at the Owner's risk, and the City is not legally liable for any damage or repairs to mailboxes due to snowplowing or other road maintenance operations.

Here are some tips for mailbox placement to help reduce the chances of damage during winter snow plowing:

- Place reflective material on the side of the mailbox visible to approaching traffic, also, 4" high letters to identify the address is recommended to assist emergency vehicles.
- Mailbox post size must not exceed 4" by 4" for a wooden post or 2" diameter for a steel pipe post for roadside barrier safety. Posts that are more substantial in construction are considered "deadly fixed objects" and are not permitted within the City's right-of-way.
- Mailboxes should be installed at least 42 inches high to provide clearance for the plow wing as shown in the **picture on the right**. We recommend the use of an extended arm type of post with a free-swinging suspended mailbox as shown. This allows snowplows to sweep near or under boxes without damage to supports and provides easy access to the boxes by carrier and customers.
- **Below you will find a sketch** showing the recommended location for your mailbox. Placing the mailbox on the side of your driveway away from approaching traffic will allow our driver to properly clear the roadway and to get as close as possible to your mailbox to minimize the amount of shoveling you will have to do to clear the mailbox for the postal carrier

