

WHYS OF SNOW PLOWS



1. Why do snow plows drive so slow?

Snow plows typically drive at 35mph, this is to ensure the salt is being distributed evenly throughout the lanes.

2. What is a Travel Advisory?

It's a caution to drivers to avoid travel whenever possible when winter weather makes driving difficult.



3. Why does the plow always bury my driveway?

When digging out your driveway, pile the snow on the right side, as the plow pushes snow from the left

4. Why is my road always plowed last?

Your local highway and DPW departments must plow the highest priority roads first. These roads are the most traveled, including roads that contain hospitals, schools, and evacuation routes.



Department of Transportation

Local Technical Assistance Program



What you need to know

Mailbox Placement



Height of mailbox placement

Your mailbox should be 41 inches to 45 inches from the road surface.

Why: The snow plow wing is 40 inches, having a mailbox at 42 inches is a risky minimum, and does not consider build-up of snow, ice or gravel



How far off the road should a mailbox be placed?

Your mailbox should be placed 6 inches to 8 inches back from the curb or shoulder.



Why: Snowplows have a 15-foot wide pass. NYS Traffic Law prohibits the snowplow from crossing the centerline. Hence anything 15 feet from the centerline will get hit.



Mailbox installation.

A 4" x 4" wood support or a 2" diameter standard steel or aluminum pipe, buried no more than 24" deep.

Why: This is recommended by the Federal Highway Administration.



Why all these standards?



Safety! The best mailbox supports must be stable but bend or fall away if hit.

