

Veterans' Day November 11

We share our precious freedom thanks to the efforts and sacrifice of all those who have served our country in military service.

To all the veterans of Franklin Township:
Thank you for your service to our country!
Franklin Township's Board of Supervisors on behalf of its residents.

Be sure to offer a hearty thank you to every Veteran that you know.

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Talking snowplowing

As the leaves fall off the trees and nature prepares for the winter months, now is a great time to discuss snow plowing in Franklin Township.

The Township monitors road conditions 24 hours a day during all winter events and adjusts the plowing, and salting according to weather and road conditions.

"Once Franklin Township knows that a storm is imminent, we begin the 'preparation phase' for snow and ice removal," said Assistant Township Manager Jeff Eastburn. "Spreaders and chains are mounted on the vehicles, and the trucks are filled with a mixture of salt and anti-skid as the details of the storm materialize. Then, when snow, sleet, or freezing rain starts, the salting operation begins."

PennDOT plows the state-maintained roads-- Clay Creek Road, North Bank Road, Chesterville Road, Wickerton Road, North Creek Road, Pennocks Bridge Road, Route 896 (New London Road), Strickersville Road, Appleton Road and Good Hope Road.

Thoroughfare roads, such as South Guernsey, Hess Mill, or Peacedale Roads, have the first priority for plowing in the Township. Development roads and cul-de-sacs are plowed next.

"The Township strives to make sure that our municipal roadways are plowed and salted in a timely fashion," states Jeff. "We need the cooperation of our residents to make sure all 37.5 miles of Township roads can be plowed correctly."

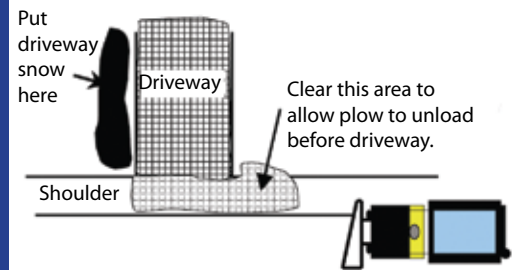
Cars parked on the roadway in developments, and especially in cul-de-sacs are hazardous and a hindrance to snow removal efforts. The circular design of cul-de-sacs makes it difficult to equally distribute the snow along the curb line. With cars, boats, and anything else (basektball hoops included) in the cul-de-sac and the size of the snowplow trucks, manuevering in this space is hard, if not impossible. Please remove everything from the cul-de-sac before a storm.

Another hazard to plowing are large rocks near the edge of the road that are buried by the snow. A snow plow truck can be damaged (and unable to continue plowing until repairs are made) and its driver injured by hitting these hidden objects, therefore everything should be removed from the right-of way before winter weather strikes.

As with any objects that are placed within the legal road right of way, the Township is not responsible for damage caused during plowing. One way to limit landscaping damage by snowplows is to define the edge of the landscaping with flexible reflective markings.

Access to your mailbox for the US Postal Service to deliver your mail is the responsibility of the resident. Also concerning mailboxes, heavy snow coming off the plow occasionally damages mailboxes (no the snowplow drivers do not aim or intentionally damage them). The Township is not responsible for damage to

How to plow your driveway



mailboxes, therefore prior to a storm remove the mailbox if you feel it is warranted.

Through the bidding process, Yardworks, the same contractor that plowed Franklin's roads last year, was awarded the contract again for this winter. In the preliminary budget for 2008, the Township has \$100,000 budgeted for snow and ice removal and \$25,000 budgeted for salt and anti-skid to cover this winter's storms.

"Our truck operators are human, and during a storm they work long hours doing their best for the benefit of all," states Jeff. "Please help them by not putting your plowed driveway snow into the roadway. Also, when you see a snowplow, give them room to work. Stay at least 100 feet away from the truck."

All questions and complaints about snow plowing should be directed to the Township Office at 610-255-5212.

Although there is no crystal ball to predict how much snow will fall from the skies or ice will form on the roads each year, the Township is prepared to get the roads back to safe driving conditions as fast as possible.