



**For additional information contact:**

Mr. Al Forte, P.E.  
NYSDOT Jefferson County Resident Engineer  
22430 Rte. 342, Building 1  
Watertown, New York 13601

Telephone: 315-785-9317



**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION**

**PROPERTY OWNERS'  
SNOW DISPOSAL  
RESPONSIBILITIES**





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The New York State Department of Transportation would like to remind property owners that during the winter months, snow and ice should not be deposited or stockpiled on or along the highway as this activity poses a hazard to pedestrians and motorists alike.

Snow and ice left on or along the highway creates unsafe driving conditions and safety concerns including; limited sight distance, impact hazards, and drainage concerns. Failure to remove deposited snow and ice could result in accidents the property owner may be liable for.

Failure to remove deposited snow and ice is also a violation of NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law:

Section 1219 - Putting glass or injurious substances on highway prohibited

(a) No person shall throw or deposit upon any highway any...snow or...other substance likely to injure any person, animal, or vehicle upon such highway.

(b) Any person who drops, or permits to be dropped...any destructive or injurious material or any material which interferes with the safe use of the highway shall immediately remove the same or cause it to be removed.

Winter snow storage along pedestrian routes poses particular safety issues. The storage of snow along sidewalks, "bump-outs" or other streetside appurtenances results in poor visibility for pedestrians and motorists.

The Department understands the snow disposal problems many property owners face during the winter months.

It is the Department's wish to educate property owners as to their responsibility and to ensure safe highway conditions for all who use them.