



Town of Mansfield
6 Park Row, Mansfield, Massachusetts 02048
Department of Public Works
Lee Azinheira, PE

January 31, 2006

SUBJECT: Mailbox Damage

Dear Mansfield Resident,

The Mansfield Highway Division takes considerable precautions to avoid damage to mailboxes. However, our primary mission is to clear the streets of snow and ice in order to make them safe for vehicular traffic. The Post Office requires mailboxes to be set a minimum distance from the edge of the road, which is less than the overhang of most snowplows.

Mailboxes get damaged primarily by the weight of snow and ice thrown from the snowplows. The Highway Division investigates every complaint that we receive regarding mailbox or any other property damage. However, with regards to mailboxes, we only replace the mailbox or post when we find the driver negligent in his operation. We consider it negligence when the truck or the base of the plow leaves the paved road.

The Town Policy regarding mailboxes reads as follow:

***“The Town will not be responsible for mailboxes, plantings, fences or any other property placed within Town layout/Right of Way damaged in snow removal operations.*”**

It was further expanded to state that if a mailbox and post was struck due to negligence of the driver and not by force of the snow then the Town would replace the damaged mailboxes only with the basic post and metal box and any other extraordinary damages would not be paid.”

We apologize for the inconvenience and will work with you to try to come up with a location or configuration for your mailbox installation that will be less likely to get damaged. Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

Lee Azinheira, P.E.
DPW Director

LA/rg