

## **PREPARING FOR WINTER**

Winter is fast approaching and residents are reminded of their responsibilities concerning snow removal and storage. These can best be summarized with the statement **“STORE THE SNOW THAT FALLS ON YOUR PROPERTY ON THAT SAME PARCEL.”**

Michigan State statute prohibits plowing snow across any public street. In addition, City ordinances make it illegal to move snow from private property onto the public street right-of-way or to pile it where it interferes with the vision of motorists using intersections or commercial drives. Snow from the portion of your drive that is on street right-of-way may be piled onto or along the bank formed by City street plows in front of the same parcel, provided it is done without creating a safety hazard (full ordinance language on [Snow Removal](#)).

Develop a plan now on where to safely and legally store your snow or to have it removed when it exceeds the storage capacity of your lot. You will also need to park all vehicles off the streets between 1:00am and 6:00am from November 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> per the [Winter Parking Ban](#). Don't let your storage of snow or vehicles become a problem for your neighbors or the public in general.

There are also a few steps you should take to prepare your property for snow removal. If you have a rural-type mailbox, make sure the box is securely attached to the post and that the post is of sound material. Install a brightly colored marker post that will extend two feet above the surrounding snow bank at all times. Wet snow coming off a plow blade can deliver a force of more than 100 pounds to a mailbox installation. It is the homeowner's responsibility to assure that the installation will withstand this force. The City will repair or replace a box only if it was clearly visible but struck by the City plow truck.

If you have timbers, rocks, fencing, shrubs or other landscape features within the right-of-way that may be in the path of City snow removal equipment, please remove them or mark them with brightly colored marker posts that will extend above the snow bank at all times.