

City of Worcester

**An Ordinances Relative to
Sidewalk Snow Removal**

Chapter 12 § 23. Sidewalk Snow Removal

(a) The owner or occupant of land which is bounded by any street, including state highways, whereon there is a sidewalk shall within ten hours after any winter storm, cause all snow, ice or other forms of freezing precipitation to be removed from such sidewalk to a width of not less than four feet for the entire distance that the sidewalk abuts the land.

Wherever a sidewalk, which is required to be shoveled or treated under this ordinance, provides, in the absence of snow or ice, access to a crosswalk in the traveled portion of any adjacent street, whether or not that access includes any form of accessibility ramping, the owner or occupant shall shovel and treat an area at least four feet in width from the shoveled sidewalk to the crosswalk so as to provide access to the adjacent street or streets. In the event that any crosswalk includes an electronic crosswalk system activated by pedestrians, the owner or occupant shall shovel a similar path to any button or switch activating such a system. After shoveling, to the extent that snow, ice or freezing precipitation shall remain on any sidewalk **or area** required to be shoveled by this section, the owner or occupant shall treat the same with sand, salt or other suitable material. This Ordinance shall not apply to sidewalks abutting the rear lot line of any property along a state highway which is maintained by the state as the same shall from time to time be identified and published by the commissioner.

(b) If the owner or occupant fails to remove such snow within the time provided in the preceding section, the city may assess a civil penalty pursuant to chapter fifteen for each calendar day upon which such snow, ice or freezing precipitation is nor removed or treated as herein provided. In addition to the civil penalty, the city may remove or cause such snow, ice or other forms of freezing precipitation to be removed or treated and the owner or occupant shall reimburse the city for the expense incurred for such removal or treatment. Any sums so expended may be recovered in an action of contract by the city against the owner or occupant. The city may also impose a municipal charges lien on the property pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 58. The civil penalty, removal expense and municipal charges lien shall be cumulative remedies exercised at the discretion of the city.

(c) For purposes of this section, “sidewalk” shall mean any paved area that is immediately adjacent to the area of a public or private way designated for vehicular travel whether or not such paved area is separated from the traveled way by any green space or planting area.

Chapter 15 § 2(b)(8) (A)

§ 2(b) (8) Streets and Sidewalks Fines & Penalties

(A)Snow & Ice Removal – R.O. c. 12 § 23:	\$ 75.00
Enforcing Person:	Commissioner of Public Works & Parks