

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DPW

A PARKING BAN REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM NOVEMBER 15, 2014  
THROUGH APRIL 15, 2015



PLEASE BE AWARE OF COURT RULING ON SNOW & ICE  
AND SHIRLEY BY LAWS  
CONCERNING SNOW REMOVAL



A ruling by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in 2010 says that property owners may be held liable for snow related injuries, whether the snow or ice is caused by “natural” accumulation or “unnatural” accumulation. This means in effect, **that property owners are responsible for their sidewalk, walkway or driveway to be clear of snow and ice even if caused by a snow plow.** You may encounter legal issues if someone sustains an injury on your property. This new ruling overturned 125 years of legal precedent in which, in the past, owners could simply leave “naturally” accumulated snow and ice untreated and escape any liability. If you would like more information regarding this ruling please refer to Mass Supreme Judicial Court Case *Papadopoulos v. Target Corp.*



## SHIRLEY TOWN BY-LAW STATES:



- A. Snow in Ways – No person, other than an employee of the Town of Shirley or an independent contractor for the Town of Shirley, engaged in snow removal for the Town, shall pile, push or blow snow or ice onto or across a public way, or any way that is plowed and sanded by the Town, and leave any such snow or ice in said way.
- B. Obstructing Hydrants – Depositing snow and or ice in such a manner as to obstruct the operation of any Fire Hydrant is prohibited.
- C. Penalty – Violation of this By-law shall be subject to a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the first offense and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each subsequent offense.



The DPW tries to maintain clear, safe and accessible roads and parking lots for the citizens of Shirley. We are working with a limited crew and a budget and the safety of our residents, pedestrians and motorists is our first priority.

