

Town of Freedom

Road Maintenance and Mail Box Policy

Road maintenance and mail delivery require that mailboxes along the road meet certain requirements. If you follow them, you're less likely to have the Post Office have difficulties delivering your mail, and you're less likely to have your mailbox damaged by plowing and other road maintenance

- Position your mailbox at least 45" from the road surface to the bottom of the mailbox or point of mail entry.
- Place your mailbox back from the edge of the road, close enough that the mail carrier can access it without leaving his vehicle, but far enough that it will not be struck by traffic.
- Put your house or apartment number on the mailbox.
- If your mailbox is at the end of a road, away from your house, put your full street address on the box.

The best mailbox supports are stable but bend or fall away if a car hits them. The Federal Highway Administration recommends:

- A 4" x 4" wooden support or a 2"-diameter standard steel or aluminum pipe.
- Avoid unyielding and potentially dangerous supports, like heavy metal pipes, concrete posts, and farm equipment (for example, milk cans filled with concrete).
- Bury your post no more than 24" deep.
- Keep the path to your mailbox clear.

Additionally, fire trucks and other emergency vehicles use your mailbox number to locate your home, so make sure your box number is clearly displayed on your mailbox. This will also make sure you properly receive your mail.

Making sure your mailbox meets these requirements will make mail delivery and road maintenance safer and more efficient, and it will reduce the possibility of any damage to your mailbox from plowing. If a mailbox is damaged by a town plow truck, the Select Board will examine each incident, and then speak to the driver and the property owner. Depending upon their findings, damages may or may not be awarded to the property owner.