

City of Columbus
Mailbox Policy
POL 12-06

Policy Statement

Every year the City of Columbus get calls about damaged mailboxes due to snow plowing. Starting in the winter of 2014/2015 the city will only do repairs to the mailboxes that are physically hit by the city snow removal equipment and that comply to the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation mailbox support swing away type as described in the policy guidelines.

Policy Guidelines

The city would prefer that the use of swing away mailbox stands are used, but is not requiring them. The city however is requiring that the same height and setbacks are followed. In the case that a swing away mailbox is not being installed, here are the post requirements.

State laws mandate that all mailbox supports meet the following criteria. Wood posts cannot be larger than 4 x 4 inches. Metal pipe can be no larger than 2 inch inside diameter, standard steel or aluminum. There should be one support for one box or two for a group of boxes. The supports should yield or collapse if struck, bend or fall away from the vehicle, not create severe deceleration, not be fitted with an anchor plate (metal post), not be embedded in the ground more than 24 inches. There is to be 42 inch clearance from the road surface to the bottom of the box or support to allow for the snow plow to get under the structure. The Maintenance Department also requires that paper tubes mounted on mailbox posts must meet the 42 inch clearance. Contact the city to get a copy of the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation mailbox regulations.

For your safety call **GOPHER STATE ONE CALL** at 651-454-0002 for location of underground utilities at least four (4) days ahead of digging.