

# The Works

January  
2026



## MEDFIELD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

\*\* The DPW presents "THE WORKS", a quarterly newsletter to inform the residents of Medfield on the happenings of their Public Works Department including updates on projects, current events, and upcoming developments \*\*

### HIGHWAY DIVISION *Storm Update:*



Storm cleanup is an ongoing process. When severe weather occurs, our teams work closely with Public Safety and other town utilities to ensure everyone remains safe. Roads are cleared in a timely manner, and efforts are made to ensure nothing is left out of place.

Priority is given to removing large fallen trees, especially those blocking roadways or impacting access. If trees are involved with downed wires, we are unable to begin removal until the appropriate utility companies have completed their work and the area is deemed safe.

We would like to thank our crews for their hard work and quick response during these challenging conditions.



Have you ever wondered why the Department of Public Works sprays orange markings on the ground or installs wooden stakes around town?

These markings are used for snow removal and help alert snowplow operators to the locations of catch basins. This serves two important purposes:

1. It allows crews to locate and clear catch basins during snow removal so stormwater can continue to flow efficiently underground.
2. It helps plow operators avoid striking these areas, preventing damage to equipment and infrastructure.

Wooden stakes are often placed near granite inlets. If a plow were to strike these structures, it could damage the equipment and require the granite inlet to be repaired or replaced. This would pull personnel away from snow removal operations and result in additional costs for repairs and materials.

These markings help keep our roads safer, protect town infrastructure, and ensure efficient stormwater management during winter weather.

### *Wildflower Planting*



This spring, our team spent time planting multiple rounds of wildflowers to help support local pollinators. Pollinators play a vital role in our environment, and these plantings provide essential food and habitat while also adding a pop of color around town. Keep an eye out as these wildflowers begin to bloom!



## Cemetery Division: Fall\Pre Winter Clean up



The Cemetery expansion at Vine Lake Cemetery is making great progress and is currently in the layout phase. We anticipate beginning the redesign of the new sections in the spring.



## Water & Sewer Division-

Water and Sewer rates were voted on in August, resulting in a 7% increase for water and a 9% increase for sewer. Summer water and sewer bills were mailed around November 6. If you did not receive your bill, it is now past due. Please contact the Tax Collector's Office to arrange payment.

The Water and Sewer team continues to transition the town to the new FlexNet metering system. This system will be connected to a customer portal that will allow residents to view daily water usage and compare billing cycles. Residents will also be able to set usage alerts at selected intervals, which can help identify potential leaks much sooner than the current six-month billing cycle.

While progress slows slightly during the winter months, additional letters will be sent as part of the final push to convert the remaining approximately one-third of the town to the new system. The launch of the customer portal will depend on a forthcoming software upgrade. Please stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

## Employee Spotlight - Meet the Office Team



Jessica Robinson has been with the Town for two years as an Administrative Assistant and truly enjoys working with the public. Her friendly nature and willingness to help make her a welcoming and reliable point of contact for residents and colleagues alike. Jessica is also focused on her future, having recently enrolled in school to complete her degree. Outside of the office, she values spending time with her family and is a proud mom to a 13-year-old daughter. Jessica's dedication to both her work and personal growth makes her an important part of the team.



Sarah Downs has been with the Town for three years, where she serves as the Office Manager, keeping daily operations running smoothly and efficiently. Known for her dedication and ability to juggle many responsibilities, Sarah recently achieved a major milestone by completing her master's degree, a testament to her strong work ethic and commitment to professional growth. Outside of work, Sarah is a single mom to two young daughters, which means she is always on the go. When she does find time to slow down, she loves exploring new places and traveling. She had the opportunity to visit Hawaii last year and is looking forward to an exciting trip to Alaska later this year. Sarah's drive, organization, and positive attitude make her a valued member of the team.

## DPW SAFETY TIPS DID YOU KNOW?

Clearing snow from catch basins helps prevent flooding. Keeping drains clear allows melting snow and ice to flow properly and reduces icy conditions on roads and sidewalks.

Parked vehicles can slow snow removal. Keeping cars off the street during storms allows DPW crews to clear roads more efficiently and safely.



For more information or have questions, please contact our main office at (508) 906-3003 or visit our town website @ [www.town.medfield.net](http://www.town.medfield.net)

