

Town of Madbury Mailbox Guidance

The Town of Madbury offers the following guidance for the placing of mailboxes:

1. The Town allows installation of mailboxes in the town right-of-way by residents at their own risk.
2. The Town does not require a permit for installation.
3. The Town recommends placement of the mailbox face to be 36 inches from the edge of the pavement.

Town does not take responsibility when any part is in the ROW. See “at their own risk above.”

RSA 47:17, VII. Use of Public Ways. ...To regulate all streets and public ways, wharves, docks, ...the erection of posts, signs, ...

From USPS publications:

Mailbox Supports

The Postal Service does not regulate mailbox supports in any way except for purposes of carrier safety and delivery efficiency. Posts and other supports for curbside mail-boxes are owned and controlled by customers, who are responsible for ensuring that posts are neat and adequate in strength and size. Heavy metal posts, concrete posts, and miscellaneous items of farm equipment, such as milk cans filled with concrete, are examples of potentially dangerous supports. The ideal support is an assembly that bends or falls away when struck by a vehicle. Post or support designs may not represent effigies or caricatures that disparage or ridicule any person. Customers may attach the box to a fixed or movable arm. POM 632.5 specifies postal regulations regarding construction and placement of mailboxes and supports on motorized city, rural, and contract delivery service routes.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has determined that wooden mailbox supports no larger than 4 inches by 4 inches, or a 2-inch diameter standard steel or aluminum pipe, buried no more than 24 inches, should safely break away if struck by a vehicle. According to FHWA, the mailbox must also be securely attached to its post to prevent separation if struck. See Exhibits E and F for examples of mailbox mountings and supports suggested by the FHWA.

In areas where snow removal is a problem, postal officials suggest using a semi-arch or extended arm-type support. This allows snowplows to sweep near or under boxes without damaging supports and provides easy access to the boxes by carriers and customers.

Exhibits E and F

