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Boston street sweeping, related parking restrictions, to resume Friday

Posted by Matt Rocheleau March 29, 2011 11:05 AM [E-mail](#) | [Print](#) | [Comments \(15\)](#)

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Street sweeping in Boston will resume again April 1 -- no joke.

Hub drivers will need to adhere to permanently posted signs indicating parking restrictions during weekday daytime periods when each portion of roadway is scheduled to be swept. At the driver's expense, a private tow company will haul away illegally-parked vehicles that will also sport a bright-orange envelope wrapped around a \$40 ticket tucked under a windshield wiper.



(Globe file)

Street sweepers: they're back.

In the annual effort budgeted for nearly \$16-million during fiscal year 2011, city streets are cleaned on a rotating schedule beginning Friday through Nov. 30. Parked vehicles along a scheduled street-sweep path prevent the goofy-looking cleaning machines from hugging the curb and removing debris along street edges.

Because of how violating vehicles can delay the process, "the street cleaning parking regulations are strictly enforced," the city said in a reminder this week.

After a **nearly-as-snowy-as-Shaq-is-tall** winter, the city said it began an "early and aggressive cleanup plan" last month directing city officials to collaborate with businesses and residents "in a more coordinated approach" in spring's anticipation.

"Once the snow and ice melted this year, the city's fleet of street sweepers was dispatched to begin cleaning up local streets that were especially hard hit during this tough winter," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said in the announcement.

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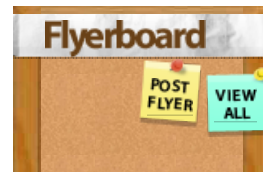
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Because the cleanup done so far this year occurred before the annual spring-to-fall program began, there were no parking restrictions. The deployed machines instead maneuvered around parked vehicles and tidied up along curbs where they could, city officials said.

"Keeping Boston clean is a top priority of mine, as well as the residents of Boston, and we all look forward to seeing Boston sparkle as we welcome the spring season," Menino added in the release.

In addition to dusting off salty, sandy city streets, the city has been "aggressively seeking and filling potholes since the snow melted," according to the city. The Public Works Department deploys over eight "Pothole Patrol" crews daily.

Those crews have patched more than 3,600 potholes this season, thanks in part to "the city's newest weapon against potholes," officials said. The cutting-edge pothole filling truck unleashed in Boston for the first time this year is nicknamed "Potzilla" and provides a one-stop patching method for more-efficient repairs, the city said.

Residents are encouraged to call the Mayor's Hotline or use the [Citizens Connect](#) smartphone application to report potholes, graffiti, and an array of other issues to the city.

To register for "No-Tow" e-mail reminders and to find street sweeping schedule information, visit www.cityofboston.gov/publicworks/sweeping.

For a list of spring cleaning tips and information, visit www.cityofboston.gov/spring.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.



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