

Mailbox and Lawn Damage Policy (Reference Ohio R.C. 5547.03, 5547.04, 5571.14)

Although undesired, there is always a potential for damage to mailboxes and lawns during the snow removal process, road work or roadside mowing. Mailboxes and lawns that are damaged along LaGrange Township roads by actual physical contact with Township equipment will be repaired at the Township's expense, but only if they were properly located and installed according to USPS guidelines shown below.

Damage will be evaluated by the Township Road Superintendent on a case by case basis.

Mailboxes and lawns that are damaged on County or State roads within LaGrange Township will be addressed by the policy of the agency responsible for the road maintenance.

Damaged lawn area will be repaired and reseeded as determined by the Township.

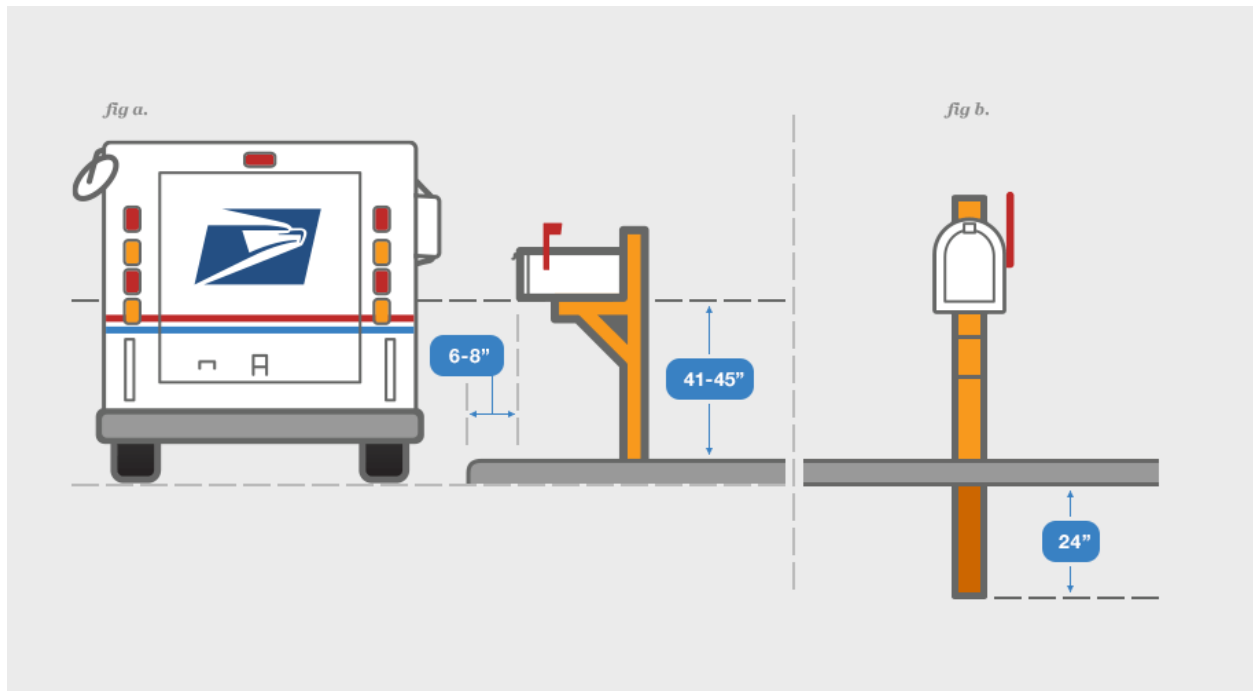
Mailbox repairs will not take place until current snow operations are finished. Future snow events could delay repairs. Altered or custom-made mailboxes damaged by plow strike, will be replaced with a standard U.S. postal mailbox and post. The Township is not responsible for any mailbox that is not the standard U.S. postal mailbox permitted in the right-of-way. Replacement of "designer" mailboxes will be the responsibility of the owner.

Owners eligible for a replacement mailbox, as determined by the Township Road Superintendent, may choose to be reimbursed \$35.00 in lieu of the replacement box. Reimbursement request will occur only after completion of the form found at the end of this policy.

Mailboxes that have been confirmed damaged by physical contact of Township equipment will be repaired or replaced by the Township with a standard rural type mailbox on a 4x4 wood post provided that:

- 1) The damaged mailbox had been installed properly per the United States Postal Service.
- 2) If the mailbox and its post were deteriorated, the decision to replace either part will be at the discretion of the Township Road Department.

Note: The mailbox owner is responsible for repair or replacement of the mailbox if the mailbox was damaged by the pressure of the plowed snow and there was no physical contact with the snow plow equipment.



Placing the Mailbox

Here are some helpful guidelines to follow when installing your mailbox:

- Position your mailbox 41" to 45" from the road surface to the bottom of the mailbox or point of mail entry.
- Place your mailbox 6" to 8" back from the curb. If you do not have a raised curb, contact your local postmaster for guidance.
- Put your house or apartment number on the mailbox.
- If your mailbox is on a different street from your house or apartment, put your full street address on the box.
- If you are attaching the box to your house, make sure the postal carrier can reach it easily from your sidewalk, steps, or porch.

Installing the Post

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 (e.g., milk cans filled with concrete).
- Bury your post no more than 24" deep.

LaGrange Township, Lorain County, Ohio
Damaged Mailbox Policy
RELEASE AND AGREEMENT OF ALL CLAIMS

I, (print name) _____, residing at _____, in consideration of the sum of \$35.00 to be paid to me by LaGrange Township, Lorain County, Ohio, hereby refuse, or refused, the installation of a standard mailbox and/or post by LaGrange Township, and further understand that by accepting said payment, I am responsible for the repair and/or replacement of said mailbox, and do hereby compromise, forever discharge, waive and release any and all rights, claims, demands, damages, actions and causes of action which I have or may have against LaGrange Township, Lorain County, Ohio, its officers, agents and servants, including such as have arisen or may arise by reason of or in any manner growing out of the incident which occurred on (date)_____.

It is understood that this payment of \$35.00 is in full payment and satisfaction of the disputed claim and is not to be construed as an admission of liability on the part of LaGrange Township, Lorain County, Ohio. And furthermore I, (print name) _____, in consideration of the payment aforesaid, do hereby expressly covenant and agree that I will forever indemnify and save harmless LaGrange Township, Lorain County, Ohio, its officers, agents, and servants, with the intent, or for the purpose, of establishing or enforcing any further claim for damages arising out of such accident.

I further agree that I have not subrogated nor will I subrogate at any time in the future, any claim arising from the incident as herein above set forth.

Claimant Signature

Township Witness Signature

Date