Office of Fire Prevention and Control  
Bureau of Fire Prevention

Campus Fire Safety Bulletin

Snow and Ice Removal

It’s winter in New York and it should come as no surprise that we experience snow and ice this time of year. What is unfortunate, illegal and simply dangerous, is that we tend to disregard the critical need to keep our exits and their associated exit pathways free of snow and ice.

If forced to exit because of an emergency: would you be able to escape through this?

Countless times, state fire inspectors find exits obstructed, exterior steps not shoveled, doors frozen closed or their swing restricted due to ice build up.

Keeping ahead of mother nature is not easy or pleasant for those who must brave the elements to keep the stairs, walkways and doors clear... but the alternative is worse for anyone who must rely upon safe egress in time of emergency.

§1028.2 Reliability. Required exit accesses, exits or exit discharges shall be continuously maintained free from obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency when the areas served by such exits are occupied.