

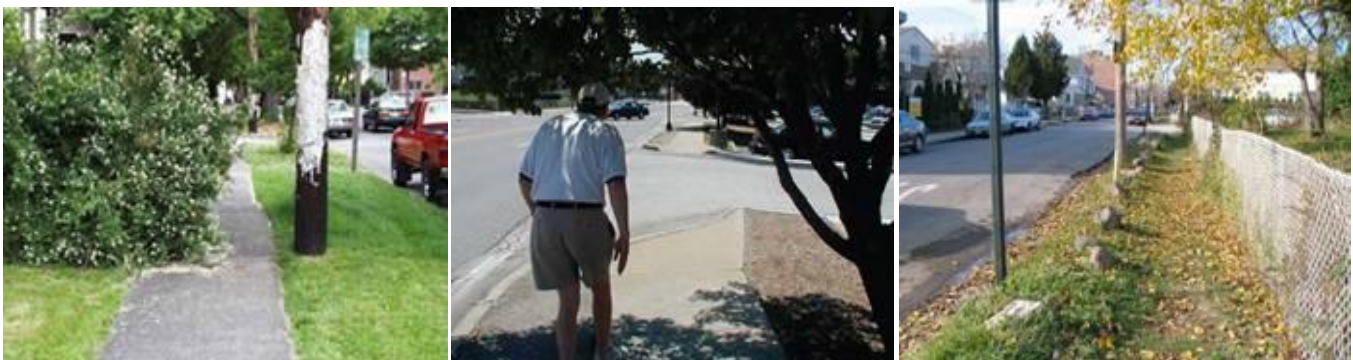
MAKE WAY FOR WALKERS

Finally, after an unseasonably cold, rainy winter our beautiful trees, bushes, flowers, and shrubs are beginning to flourish! Please check to see if spring has sprung into the pedestrian path. Do you know, as a property owner you are responsible for trimming trees or vegetation along the sidewalk in front of your house?

Our sidewalks should be accessible to all people, including wheelchair users and the visually impaired. The American's with Disabilities Act says the clear zone must be *at least* 36 inches wide and 80 inches high. No bushes, flowers, or grasses should protrude into the sidewalk area. Please *make way for walkers* by trimming your hedges and tree branches.

If the vegetation is in the public right of way (the grassy strip between the street and the sidewalk) and too big for you to handle, you may need to contact your local public works office. If the overgrown sidewalk belongs to a neighbor, start by politely asking the property owners to trim their plants so pedestrians can safely use the sidewalk. If the vegetation is on land owned by an absentee landlord or a government agency, such as a park or transit station, use PEDS' hazard reporting tool at peds.org to report it.

See examples below...



Walking through the neighborhood is a great way to enjoy the greening and flowering of spring. It is no fun if you are ducking and side-stepping to avoid vegetation. So please, remember to *make way for walkers* by keeping your sidewalk area clear.