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# Alleys, Driveways and Retaining Walls

City of Philadelphia • Department of Streets • Highway Division

## YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

*Alleys, driveways and retaining walls are private property. They belong to you, the property owner; the City of Philadelphia does not own or maintain them. It is your responsibility to maintain them in a safe and sanitary condition.*

*All abutting owners, generally, have the right to use the entire length of an alley or driveway (this is written in your deed).*

*All costs for repairs or reconstruction to an alleyway or driveway are shared by those property owners having deed rights and otherwise for the use of said alleyways and driveways.*

*Even if only parts of an alley or driveway need repair, all responsible property owners must share the cost of the repair.*

## For All Streets Department Services



- Trash & Recycling Collection  
Recycling Hot Line  
(215) 685-RECY(CLE)  
(215) 685-7329
- Illegal Dumping/Clean-up
- Pothole and Street Repair
- Traffic Signals and Signs
- Philadelphia More Beautiful  
Committee
- Streets & Walkways Education &  
Enforcement Program (SWEEP)
- Alley Lighting
- Street Lighting  
(24 hours, call (215) 934-5030)

Email: [csstreets@phila.gov](mailto:csstreets@phila.gov)

Internet site: [www.phila.gov/streets](http://www.phila.gov/streets)

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA



**The Honorable Michael Nutter**  
Mayor

**Dr. Camille Cates Barnett**  
Managing Director

**Rina Cutler**  
Deputy Mayor/Deputy Managing Director

STREETS DEPARTMENT



**Clarena I.W. Tolson**  
Commissioner

**Kevin M. Koch**  
Chief Highway Engineer

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Planning and Public Affairs Office  
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