

COMMUNITY IMPACT

What tangible changes occur as a result of the Eruv? For the traditional Jew, the Eruv enables the carrying of keys and prayer shawls and the use of strollers and wheel chairs. It also creates greater opportunity for community interaction especially for families with young children. On the other hand, the Eruv does not abrogate the rights of any individual of the greater Providence community living within its borders. There is no superstition or mysticism associated with the Eruv. It is based on legal codes found within the text of Jewish law. The Eruv is built for one purpose: to allow for the carrying and moving of objects from domain to domain during the Sabbath.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

The Jewish legalities surrounding the Eruv are very strict. As a result, any minor change in the "doorway" will render the Eruv invalid. The Eruv is therefore inspected weekly to ensure its validity. If a problem is discovered, a crew is dispatched to fix it. Sometimes, the problem is solved temporarily by placing a board approximately 40 inches tall on the pole. This board is an integral part of the Eruv and should not be removed by anyone other than an Eruv employee.

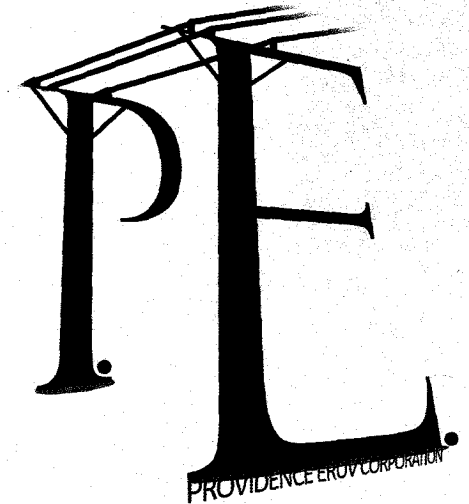
WHAT?

The Eruv is a series of doorways created by vertical posts and overhead cables. The posts are made from ground-wire covers and placed vertically on the utility poles. The cables for the Eruv are the existing overhead utility lines.

WHY?

The Sabbath is a special time of the week. From sunset on Friday evening until nightfall on Saturday, a spiritual calm descends on each Jew. The worries and fast pace of the week comes to a halt. The traditional Jew observes this holy day by doing special rituals and by avoiding many types of activity. One restricted activity is carrying in a public domain. This includes any area that is non-residential, including streets, thoroughfares, parks, etc. As such, the traditional Jew may not carry keys, books, or tissues, or push a baby stroller to the synagogue on the Sabbath. The Eruv creates a legal boundary around an area and renders the enclosed property a private domain, thus creating a place in which it is permissible to carry.

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Questions?
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MAKING CARRYING ON SHABBOS A REALITY



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