Ice and Snow Removal

Protect Clean Water through the Proper Use of De-Icers

Manual Removal for best results


Photo Credit: Fortin Consulting

- Salt is not always necessary for a safe surface. More importantly, it is not a replacement for manual snow removal. It can only aide in snow and ice melt.
- Break up ice with an ice scraper. Once you have removed the snow and ice you may need to apply a de-icer or sand for traction.

Did you know...
A **teaspoon of salt** will permanently pollute **5 gallons of water,** so proper salt use is important to protect the environment and clean water.

Protect your de-icer


Photo from directindustry.com

- Store your salt on an impermeable surface like asphalt or coated concrete with protection from water and damp areas.
- Many de-icers attract moisture and will create large, unusable clumps or can be easily dissolved in water and washed away.

Apply the proper amount

- Use a spreader to ensure you are not wasting your de-icer.
- Measure your space so you apply the correct amount. For every 1,000 square feet less than 4 pounds of de-icer is needed.
- **If you don't have a scale, 1 pound** of salt is approximately a heaping **12-ounce coffee mug**.


Photo Credit: Fortin Consulting

Quick Tips

- Keep up with the storm
- Manually remove as much snow as possible
- Be conservative with de-icers
- Pick the right de-icer
- Don't use salt in the extreme cold. Wait until a sunny, warm day. You can use sand to increase traction on slippery areas.
- Keep your crew informed on the best ways to apply, use, and store de-icer

Save your de-icer, less is better

- Do not trust the labels. More salt does not mean more melting.
- Ensure you follow the "**practical melting point**" not the "eutectic temperature".
- Sweep up extra salt or sand. When it is visible it is only doing harm. Reuse it or throw it in the trash.

Learn More:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: http://www.pca.state.mn.us
Minnesota LTAP: http://www.mnltap.umn.edu/topics/snow/
MN DOT: http://www.dot.state.mn.us/maintenance/research/chemical/Guidelines%20for%20Anti-icing%20-Public.pdf

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