

# STAFF TRAINING

Create a winter maintenance plan and provide pre-season training events for all staff.

- ✓ By training staff, you can maintain safe conditions for your customers and cut the cost of oversalting.
- ✓ Identify what areas your team is responsible for (roads, sidewalks, parking lots, etc.) Different areas require different plans.

Calibrate equipment before each winter season to ensure the proper amount of material is dispensed.

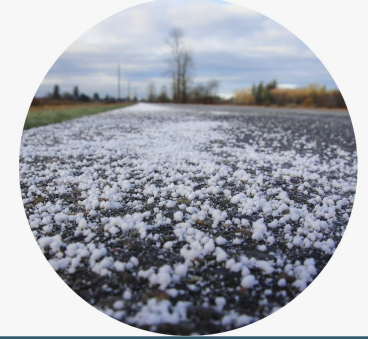
- ✓ Follow generic calibration instructions. Equipment calibration varies; there is no one-size-fits-all approach.
- ✓ Ensure you have a manual for your specific equipment, then calibrate according to the size of the area you usually salt.
- ✓ Have two staff members complete calibration.



Matt Donovan, facilities manager, Mayo Clinic Rochester MN tells in this video how they have made significant improvements to their winter maintenance plan, reducing costs, saving their team time, and increasing their level of safety.



# Smart Salting Practices



## FOR MORE GENERAL INFORMATION VISIT:

[WWW.LAKEERIESTARTSHERENWOH.ORG](http://WWW.LAKEERIESTARTSHERENWOH.ORG)



## THE IMPACTS OF OVERSALTING

Did you know the largest migration of walleye east of the Mississippi occurs in the Maumee River? Unfortunately, an increase in chloride levels can affect the size of fish.



High road salt

No road salt

According to the US EPA, road salts are estimated to cause \$5 billion in damage to infrastructure and cars each year.

Once salt has entered our water, there are no cost-effective methods for removal. Salt pollutes drinking water and increases chloride levels. Chloride can corrode pipes, causing toxic chemicals to end up in our drinking water.



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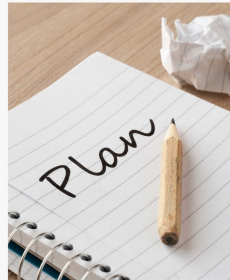
# STORAGE

If salt is improperly stored, it can pollute water resources. Properly storing salt can protect the environment and reduce the cost of materials.

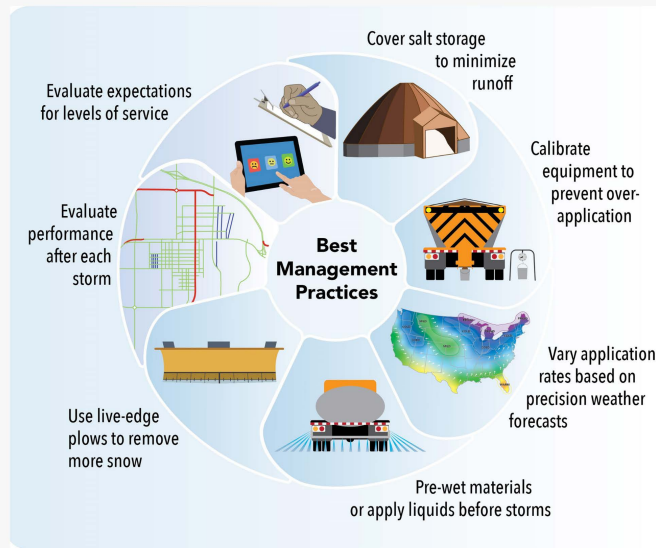


- ✓ Storing salt indoors whenever possible. If unable to be stored inside, materials should be covered at all times and located on a hard surface.
- ✓ Store salt out of the path of melting snow.
- ✓ Store snow away from lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

# HOW TO SAVE TIME AND MONEY WHILE IMPROVING YOUR LEVEL OF SERVICE



- ✓ Monitor winter weather forecasts closely and act proactively. Remember to plow early and often and utilize wet treatments if available.
- ✓ Every storm is different; establishing different plans can save time.
- ✓ After treatment, evaluate the performance of your treatment strategies. Identify areas that need more or less attention in the future.



# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Implementing smart salting practices can protect the environment and human health. Additionally, they can save you time and money while maintaining the same level of service.

# APPLICATION RATES

Salt application should be adjusted based on several factors, including pavement temperature, amount of snowfall, and level of service.

- ✓ Follow an application chart.
- ✓ Track application rates.
- ✓ Measure and use pavement temperatures.
- ✓ Shovel or plow before applying salt.
- ✓ Don't use dry road salt for pavement temperatures below 15°F.

# PLANNING

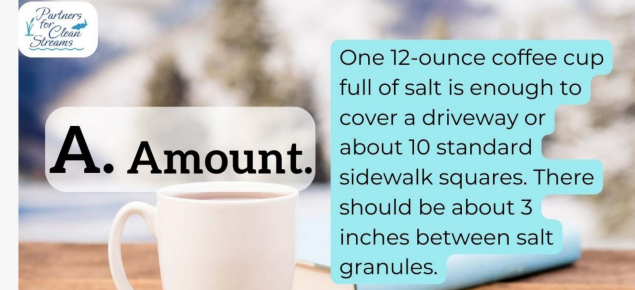
Use the questions below to easily evaluate your current winter maintenance plan.

- ? Do you monitor winter weather forecasts?
- ? Is your work proactive or reactionary?
- ? Does your plan change according to the storm?
- ? Do you conduct post-storm evaluations?



## S. Stuff.

Use the right stuff for the job. Road salt (sodium chloride) works best above 20°F. There are better solutions to de-ice and improve traction at colder temperatures.



## A. Amount.

One 12-ounce coffee cup full of salt is enough to cover a driveway or about 10 standard sidewalk squares. There should be about 3 inches between salt granules.



## L. Location.

Salt only belongs on your sidewalk and driveway. Accidentally applying salt to your lawn, flower beds, or trees will harm your plants!



## T. Timing.

Salt works best when applied before the snow falls or right after snow is removed. Never apply salt when rain is in the forecast, as it will wash away into storm drains and out to our fresh waterways.