

The “Please Salt Smart” card found on the next two pages is for businesses that are applying too much salt and/or not sweeping it up.

Please...

SALT SMART

The future's water is at stake.

SAFETY IS THE #1 CONCERN

But over salting doesn't provide extra safety. It just damages property and pollutes water.



SHOVEL EARLY AND OFTEN



SALT SPARINGLY

Space salt granules 2-3 inches apart.



USE THE CORRECT PRODUCT

Salt only works when pavement temperature (use a temperature gun) is above 15° F. In colder temperatures, use different products.



SWEEP UP & REUSE EXCESS SALT



HIRE CERTIFIED APPLICATORS



LEARN MORE AT

SALT SMART  .INFO

MELTING SNOW AND ICE CARRIES SALT INTO STORM DRAINS THAT FLOW INTO LAKES, STREAMS, AND WETLANDS. ONCE THE SALT IS DISSOLVED IN WATER, THERE IS NO PRACTICAL WAY TO GET THE SALT OUT OF THE WATER. WHILE IT IS POSSIBLE TO DESALINATE WATER WITH MASSIVE DESALINIZATION PLANTS, HOW WOULD THIS WORK FOR ENTIRE RIVER SYSTEMS, LAKES, AND GROUNDWATER? AND AT WHAT COST?

The answer is to

SALT SMART

HIDDEN COSTS OF OVER SALTING

Salt is pretty cheap—except for when the hidden costs are included. Salt erodes buildings and railings, pits sidewalks, ruins indoor flooring, and damages vegetation.

SALT IS TOXIC TO MINNESOTA AQUATIC LIFE and 50 Minnesota lakes and streams already have dangerous levels of salt. Just one little teaspoon of salt makes five gallons of water uninhabitable for most freshwater species.

SALT MAY AFFECT DRINKING WATER

Chloride concentrations (from de-icing products) are above the water quality standards in 30% of the shallow groundwater monitoring wells in the Twin Cities metro area. Since groundwater is widely used as drinking water, this could translate into health concerns too.

THE SALT SMART COLLABORATIVE WAS CREATED BY
BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

The “We are proud to Salt Smart” card found on the next two pages is for businesses that are doing a good job with salt application.

We are proud to...

SALT SMART

We care about our water and our pets' paws!

SAFETY IS OUR #1 CONCERN

But we realize over salting doesn't provide extra safety. It just pollutes water and damages property and paws.

We follow these Minnesota snow and ice clearing best practices:



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