Proper Winter Maintenance to Prevent Pollution

1 *Before* the storm

Apply a liquid de-icer before snow storms to prevent snow and ice from building up. However, this is not a substitute for shoveling; it just makes it more effective.

2 *Shovel* that snow

Shovel, snow blow, plow and/or sweep. These are all effective measures that will remove snow and minimize ice build-up.

3 Less *is* better

When applying salt, if there are leftover crystals still visible, the salt has been over applied. The left-over salt can be swept up and reused or disposed of in the trash.

4 Temperature *Matters*

At low temperatures salt begins to become less effective; check your product for more details. When the temperature falls below 15º F consider using sand as an alternative to salt.

TIP: You can make your own liquid de-icer! Mix 2 cups of hot water and one-half cup of rock salt (not table salt.)

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Did you know…

Since the early 1950s our metro area waters have become increasingly salty. Chloride levels have risen so high that many metro area creeks are now considered unhealthy.

Chlorides harm plants and animals, contaminate our drinking water, damage buildings, and corrode vehicles, roads and bridges. Too much salt results in costly damages and serious environmental consequences.

Storm drains carry excess water from streets and homes to nearby lakes and rivers; that makes your property a waterfront property. During the cold winter months, salt that is applied to our streets eventually flows into our lakes and rivers. Help keep our waters clean this winter by following these few simple steps.

WMWA
West Metro Water Alliance

This message brought to you by the West Metro Water Alliance.
For more information please contact your city.

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