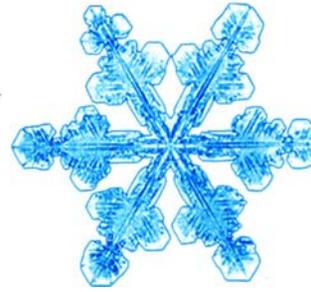


Salt & Anti-Icing— Winter Maintenance



Keeping the surfaces we travel on safe, is one of our biggest responsibilities. In the winter months, it takes even more care and caution. We do our best to make sure our methods are efficient and cost effective, while reducing impacts to the environment. Here is some information about our efforts as well as tips for you to implement at home!

Home De-Icing tips & tricks

- * Most De-icing salt products are only **effective** when the temperature is **over 15 °F**.



- * De-icing salt is **corrosive** and **damages** some surfaces such as **concrete** and harm plants.

- * Keep all salt and de-icing chemicals **stored safely** out of reach **from children** and **pets**.



- * **Sand** & kitty litter does help with **traction**, however it leaves a mess to clean up and **clogs storm sewers**.

- * A **12 oz** coffee mug of de-icing salt can **cover 250** square feet!



Environmental Impacts

Salt pollutes. Road salt contains chloride, a water pollutant. When snow and **ice melts**, the salt goes with it, washing into our lakes, streams, wetlands, and groundwater. It takes only **1 teaspoon** of road salt to permanently **pollute 5 gallons** of water. Once in the water, there is no way to remove the chloride, and at high concentrations, chloride can **harm fish** and **plant** life. Less is more when it comes to applying road salt.

~Source: stormwater.pca.statemn.us

What is anti-icing?

It is a winter maintenance method which assists in preventing the bond of snow to the pavement or street surfaces. The product is a liquid solution, or “Salt Brine” which is made up of water that has been mixed with rock salt or sodium chloride to a 23% salt concentration. The liquid is effective to a pavement temperature of 15 degrees. The solution can also be blended with other products to improve its performance to temperatures lower than 15 degrees and improve its adherence to the road surface.

How is it Applied?

The best possible time to apply the salt brine solution is prior to a winter snow event and in limited applications prior to freezing rain.

Have you wondered how the City prioritizes its snow removal or curious on snow plow routes? This information along with training, operations, and route maps can be found on our website! Simply go to

[Waconia.org](#) —> [Your Government](#) —> [Departments](#) —> [Public Services](#) —> [Policy Documents & Presentations](#) —> [Winter Maintenance Policy](#)

Advantages:

- * Prevents the bond of snow to the pavement surface.
- * Assists in returning street surface to bare pavement.
- * Applying salt brine jump starts the melting process.
- * The brine material sticks to the pavement surface and is not lost like dry salt pellets.
- * Increases efficiency which results in the use of less dry salt material being applied and also reduces the budgetary impacts, along with impacts to the watersheds and environment.

