

Ice and Snow Control



RESPECT OUR WATERS

Winter tips that make a difference for water quality:

Don't overuse salt and other deicing chemicals!

A good guide to follow is to use a coffee mug full of salt for every 10 sidewalk squares or 20 feet of driveway.



During the winter, salt and sand are added in liberal quantities to provide some safety for drivers, bikers, pedestrians.

Unfortunately, melting ice and snow carries de-icers into our storm drains and directly out into the watershed. Road salt is also corrosive and can damage vehicles and infrastructure.

Sweep up excess salt or sand after every storm. Not only will you keep it out of the storm sewers, you'll be able to use it again and save money in the process!



Take preventative measures to reduce salt usage. If possible, shovel necessary areas throughout snowfall. This will reduce the amount of salt needed and make it more effective. If the ice is thicker than ½", salting won't be helpful - use a heavy ice chopper instead.

If you hire help for snow removal, please ask your contractor to use salt sparingly, use sand or another alternative, or perform more manual labor to reduce ice formation.



If the temperature dips below 15 degrees Fahrenheit, road salt won't work. Use sand for traction or an alternative ice melt product that is effective at colder temps.

Take your car to the shop to ensure that it is running smoothly and not leaking chemicals that could end up in our waterways. It is easy to miss small leakages in the winter so take a minute to inspect your vehicle regularly.



This information was brought to you by Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc. Get more information online at RespectOurWaters.org