



Snow & Ice Management

IN INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS

Ontario experiences severe winter weather with large amounts of snowfall. The common practice to deal with snow removal often includes application of de-icer. De-icer is usually made from a urea compound or rock salt. Both products can have a negative impact on water quality.

Many property managers apply the products indiscriminately, assuming that more is better. The key to de-icer usage is to apply it sparingly, and to remove most of the snow before application.

Pollution prevention opportunities include:

- Keep rock salt piles covered.
- Add secondary containment around salt piles.
- Keep snow piles away from catch basins and manholes and well back from creeks.
- Clear as much snow as possible before adding deicer.
- To reduce ice build-up:
 - Divert rainwater away from walkways and driveways
 - Use non-slip surface treatments for walkways and driveways.

COMPARISON OF DE-ICING COMPOUNDS

CHECK THE LABEL FOR	WORKS DOWN TO	ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS
Sodium Chloride or Rock Salt (NaCl)	-9.4°C (15°F)	Contains cyanide Chlorine impacts
Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA)	-5.6°C to -3.9°C (22°F to 25°F)	Less toxic
Calcium Chloride (CaCl)	-31.7°C (-25°F)	Uses lower doses No cyanide Chlorine impact
Urea	-6.7°C to -3.9°C (20°F to 25°F)	Needless nutrients Less corrosion



Rock salt is one of the most commonly used winter de-icer on roads, parking lots and walk ways.



Readily available, inexpensive and effectively depresses the freezing point of water to melt ice.



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