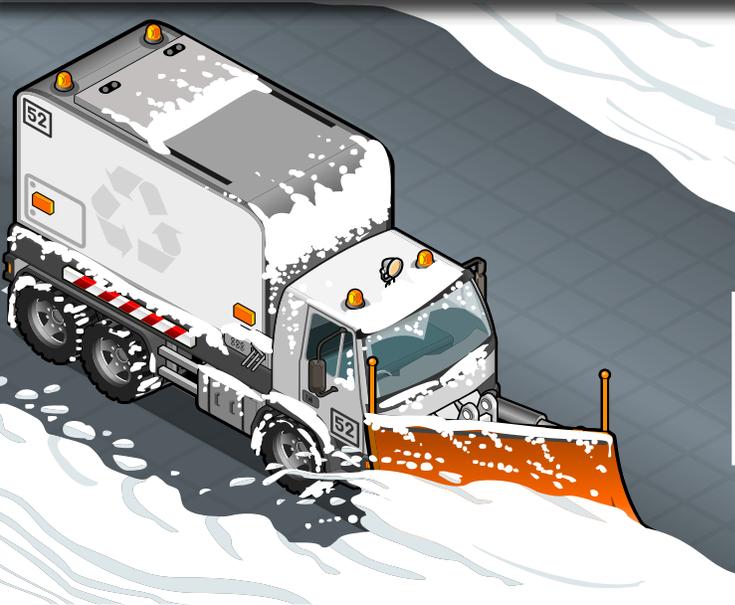




Application and Storage of Road Salt and Storage of Snow



The application, handling and storage of road salt and the storage of snow have been identified under Ontario's Clean Water Act as potential threats to drinking water sources.

Sodium and chloride from road salt can find its way into groundwater sources.

Snow removed from parking lots and roads may be concentrated with salt, oil, grease, and heavy metals from vehicles and litter.

A few strategies at home to protect sources of drinking water for you and your community include:

- Shoveling and sweeping as soon as possible after or during a snowfall to prevent ice from developing.
- Redirect downspouts away from walkways and driveways.
- Store snow so that it will not run across paved surfaces towards catchbasins or ditches.
- Use only what you need to melt the snow or ice on your driveway or sidewalk. Do not over salt.
- Give salt time to do its work.
- Salt is best used between 0° and -12° C. Salt does not work below -18° C.
- Follow weather conditions to determine when to shovel and apply salt.
- Do not apply salt if it is raining or if rain is expected.
- Sweep up loose salt, sand and de-icer to stop it from being washed into water sources when a melt occurs.
- Return salt to your salt storage area. It is still useful and effective for melting ice.



Consider using alternatives to road salt for de-icing paved surfaces such as low or non-chloride products or de-icers that combine ingredients with salt.



The Regional Municipality of Durham, Works Department
If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact
905-668-7711 ext. 3488 durham.ca/SWP

