

# Winter De-Icing Tips

Cold, snowy weather is upon us!



Be sure to be environmentally conscious when ridding your driveways and sidewalks of ice!!



High salt content in our reservoirs, lakes, and streams are

**TOXIC** to our aquatic life!!

## Winter De-Icing Tips:

- Most importantly - physically remove as much snow and ice as possible before applying a de-icer.
- Use only as much de-icer to break the pavement bond and once it is slush remove it by shoveling.
- Kitty litter, gravel, and sand do not melt ice and snow but are great for providing traction.
- Be sure to sweep up any excess salt, kitty litter, sand or gravel to prevent it from entering our lakes, streams, and reservoirs.

## Environmentally Friendly De-Icing Options:

- **CALCIUM CHLORIDE** - works well at low temperature and less harmful to vegetation but can be harmful to indoor surfaces if tracked in as well as your pet's paws.
- **CALCIUM MAGNESIUM ACETATE (CMA)** - salt free and biodegradable! Used in moderation it's not harmful to the environment and is less corrosive to concrete. Considered less harmful to vegetation than salt too!
- **UREA (NH<sub>2</sub>CO NH<sub>2</sub>)** - primarily used as fertilizer but works moderately well as a de-icer.
- **ALFALFA MEAL** - works well by providing traction to walk on as well as contains nitrogen to melt ice. It works moderately well as an ice melter.
- **BEET JUICE** - when mixed with salt can be an effective de-icer and reduces the amount of salt needed by as much as 30%. It has been shown to work well in much lower temperatures than salt and no harmful effects on the environment have been shown.

**Always clean up your excess/leftover de-icer solution!!**