

Best Practices

- Use an application rate chart.
- Calibrate equipment each year.
- Learn about deicer properties and use the best one for the condition.
- Look for reasons why materials are leaking or spilling from your spreaders and fix them (e.g. gaps, overfilling, etc).
- Develop a comprehensive winter maintenance policy. Follow your policy.
- Measure and use pavement temperatures.
- Use anti-icing appropriately prior to the storm.
- Plow before applying deicers.
- Use wet materials (pre-wet or pre-treated).
- Don't use dry road salt for pavement temperatures below 15°F.
- Don't apply deicers for pavement temps under -10° F. It's too cold.
- Separate salt and sand. Use salt for melting. Use sand for traction.
- Store the salt in a building or under secure cover.
- Store salt out of the pathway of melt water flow.
- Store snow away from lakes, ponds and wetlands.
- Sweep up sand and dispose of properly.
- For each event, document what you did and how well it worked. Use this information to make improvements.
- Talk to others about what you are trying to do to protect lakes and rivers.

This is a brief list of best practices. For a current and more complete list of best practices and to assess your organization's progress use the Winter Maintenance Assessment tool (WMA_t) at:

<https://www.wintermaintenancetool.com>