



Town of Linn, Wisconsin

BACKGROUND

In 2018, new leadership at the Town of Linn's Highway Department spearheaded the incorporation of brine and more effective methods and practices for mechanical removal into winter maintenance operations. Learn directly from their Highway Superintendent, Matt Wittum, in his webinars archived on the WI Salt Wise YouTube Channel.

OVERVIEW

Salt Savings:

Winter 2020-21: 1200 tons

Winter 2021-22: 900 tons

Total Reduction: 25%

Budget Numbers:

In-house brine blend: \$0.38/gallon

Salt savings: \$20,000+/year

CHLORIDE REDUCTION STRATEGIES

New Methods:

- Increase in plowing frequency and depth to clear more snow mechanically.
- Ended pre-salting prior to winter events and switched to anti-icing.
- Brine blended in-house to keep costs down; blend includes the use of an ag byproduct to lower the corrosivity of the salt.
- Annual calibrations instituted for all vehicles.

New Equipment:

- Cutting edge systems for plows that provide a better scrape of the pavement surface.
- Purchased a Snow-Ex anti-ice applicator for one-ton truck.
- All vehicles outfitted with pre-wet capabilities and pavement temperature sensors.

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My biggest highlights are the staff buy-in
and constructing our own brine-making and
blending system.

Matt Wittum, Highway Superintendent

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