

PROTECT OUR WATERS

STOP THE SALT ASSAULT

De-icing salt dissolves in melted snow and ice, flows into storm drains, and is discharged into our rivers and streams (not a treatment plant). This saline water threatens drinking water supplies and aquatic ecosystems. By adopting these practices, business owners can reduce their contribution to salt pollution.

DO



- Keep storm drains, catch basins, and stormwater structures clear of snow, litter, grass, and leaves. They can clog these structures.
- Use only as much salt is needed to match site conditions.
- Shovel or plow thoroughly prior to salting.
- Purchase eco-friendly salt alternatives.
- Use a salt brine rather than rock salt.

DON'T



Images courtesy of Think Blue Massachusetts

- Don't leave salt and ice melt uncovered or open to rain and snow.
- Avoid spreading clumps
- Don't dump grease or oil into a storm drain, catch basin, or other stormwater structure.

WHY IS THIS NECESSARY?

Rain that falls on and around your site can pick up trash, dirt, and chemical residue as it drains away. Much of this water, or stormwater, flows into storm drains before discharging directly into our lakes, rivers, and streams. It's one of the top causes of water pollution in the country. By keeping pollution off the ground, you prevent it from entering and impacting our waterways.