



RUNOFF RUNDOWN

Don't Be Salty

For this issue, we will be talking about how we melt ice and snow off the roads: road salt. Did you know that road salt is bad for our waterways? While putting it down on our sidewalks and roads helps us from avoiding accidents and falls, the salt finds its way into our storm drains and ends up in our waterways. This salt is bad for aquatic life. Read on to learn more about road salt.

6 Reasons To Skip Road Salt



REASONS TO SKIP ROAD SALT

1. POLLUTES OUR RIVERS AND LAKES



Salt is flushed into storm drains and ditches that empty directly into our rivers and lakes threatening the freshwater plants and animals that live there.

2. INEFFECTIVE IN COLD TEMPERATURES



Below 14 degrees, rock salt is ineffective at melting ice. Temperatures in our water shed are often colder than this, meaning all that salt isn't even doing its job!

3. DAMAGES GARDENS AND LAWNS



Salt can collect in your garden and lawn as snow and ice melt, damaging or killing plants.

4. CONTAMINATES DRINKING WATER



Road salt can easily travel through soil into ground water making it undrinkable over time.

5. HURTS OUR PETS





Pets come in contact with salt as they walk and play on treated surfaces, causing skin irritation and other problems.

6. DAMAGES ROADWAYS



The application of rock salt enhances the freeze-thaw cycle in winter, causing cracking and shifting in asphalt, concrete and masonry

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If you want to learn more about road salt, [click here](#) to visit our website.



Featured Municipality

[Learn More About Fort Atkinson](#)



Featured Waterway

[Learn More About the Scuppernong River](#)

Current and Upcoming Events

No current or upcoming events

[Stormwater Fact Friday](#)



Chlorine in road salt and road salt additives can create toxic conditions for fish, insects, and vegetation.

Via Minnesota Stormwater Manual

Other Resources

Rock River Storm Water Coalition

Are you interested in more information on the Rock River? Check out the Coalition's Rock River Reflections Winter 2018 Newsletter. [Click here...](#)

Rock River TMDL Project Email Newsletter

If you want to learn more about the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and their work with the Rock River Recovery, [click here](#) and subscribe to their email newsletter.

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