## Once you put salt down, it doesn't go away

Salt alters the composition of soil, slows plant growth and weakens the concrete, brick and stone that make up our homes, garages, bridges, and roads.

It travels into our lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands, putting our aquatic life at risk and endangering our freshwater resources.

It only takes

1 teaspoon of salt

to **permanently pollute**5 gallons of water

Every year, we use about...

30,000 tons



... of salt on our roads

This doesn't include what we use on sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots.

# Reduce your salt use to help protect our lakes, streams, and drinking water.

#### 1. Shovel



Clear walkways and other areas before the snow turns to ice. The more snow you remove manually, the less salt you will have to use and the more effective it will be.

#### 2. Scatter



If you use salt, scatter it so that there is space between the grains. Believe it or not, a coffee mug of salt is enough to treat an entire 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares.

#### 3. Switch



When pavement temperatures drop below 15 degrees, salt won't work. Switch to sand for traction or a different ice melter that works at lower temperatures.

### 4. Select a Certified Applicator



Encourage your maintenance professional to get certified through the City of Madison's Winter Salt Certification Program and ask businesses in your community to do the same.

#### 5. Love the Lines



Stripes on roads before a storm are anti-icing. They show that your professional maintenance crew is concerned about safety and is saving money, time and protecting our environment!

#### 6. Be Salt Wise All Year



Water softener salt ends up in local freshwater bodies. If your household softener uses more than 1 bag of salt per month, have a professional tune it up or replace it with a high-efficiency model.