



# Road Salt Impacts Lake Health

# Did you know...

Rock salt breaks down into sodium and chloride ions when dissolved in water.

Chloride is a **persistent pollutant**, meaning that once it is in the water, it stays there. One teaspoon of salt can pollute FIVE gallons of water! Salt won't work in temps lower than 15°F.

Luckily, there are effective alternatives available - please use sand, brine, and products like **ECOS Ice Melt** around our lake (it's safer for pets too!).

PLUS, the NYSDEC has initiated a campaign to reduce rock salt use. More info here - **[www.NYSDEC.com](http://www.NYSDEC.com)**

In fact, multiple states in the Northeast are diminishing the use of rock salt. More info here - **[www.EPA.gov](http://www.EPA.gov)**

**DO NOT USE SALT ON  
DRIVEWAYS AND WALKWAYS!!**

## Winter Worries

When winter snow and ice arrive, so does rock salt. Rock salt dissolves in snow and ends up in waterways via stormwater runoff, leading to:

- Contamination of drinking water as the salt seeps into groundwater,
- Harmful levels of chloride that endanger plants and wildlife,
- Increased soil erosion,
- Corrosion of metal and concrete that damage roads, bridges, and cars,
- Oxygen depletion in freshwater, jeopardizing native aquatic and terrestrial habitats

# Rock Salt damages our lake!