MN Pollution Control Agency Chloride Initiatives

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Road Salt Symposium

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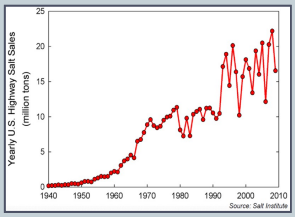
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

What's the problem?

- Safe roads, parking lots & sidewalks are essential – high expectations from the public
- Permanent pollutant
  - Cannot be treated or filtered with traditional BMPs

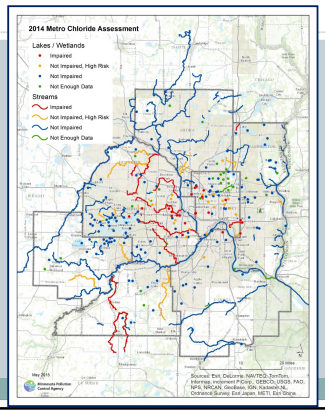
1 tsp. of salt pollutes **5 gallons** of water



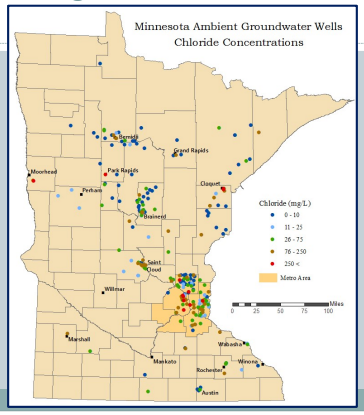
What's the problem?

- Toxic to aquatic life
  - 230 mg/L- long-term
  - 860 mg/L- short-term
- Contaminates groundwater
- Chloride can disrupt the natural mixing process in lakes
- Corrodes road surfaces/bridges and damages reinforcing rods

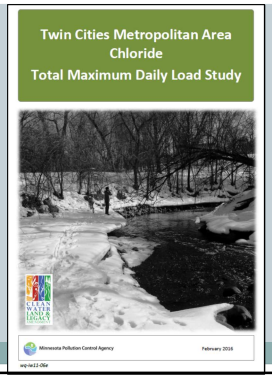
High Chloride in Lakes and Streams

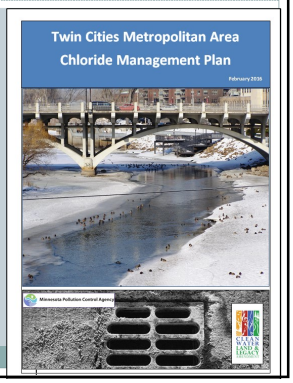


Increasing Chloride in Groundwater

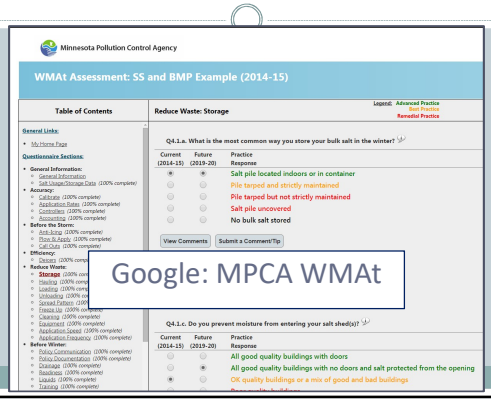


Twin Cities Metro Area Chloride Management Plan





Winter Maintenance Assessment tool (WMAt)



Google: MPCA WMAt

MPCA Smart Salting (S2) Trainings

Photo by David R. Gonzalez of MnDOT

- Level 1
  - Private applicators and local government
- Level 2
  - Winter maintenance supervisors and leadership

Google: MPCA S2 Training

What's next?

- Statewide Chloride Management Plan
  - 2017-2018
- Update and enhance WMAt
  - 2017-2020
- Let us know if you are interested in helping us out!

Borrow the Salt Dilemma Display!

Thank you for being part of the solution!

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Road Salt & Water Quality website:
http://www.pca.state.mn.us/programs/roadsalt.html