

Privately-Owned Salt Storage Ordinance

De-icing materials such as salt are applied to roadways and sidewalks to melt ice and snow, creating a safer passage for individuals and vehicles.

However, de-icing materials carried by rain, melting snow, and ice can flow into storm drains and pollute rivers, streams and lakes, as well as the groundwater, by slowly turning fresh waters into saline waters. This poses a threat to humans that rely on fresh drinking water from these waters, and to the fish and other aquatic life inhabiting them. The uncontrolled storage of these de-icing materials and the accumulation of salt on the ground can also jeopardize nearby vegetation, or local wildlife that mistake the material for food. Due to the composition of most de-icing materials, critical infrastructure such as metal pipes, concrete, asphalt, and natural stone can be damaged over time from excessive chloride levels.

adopted and enforces an ordinance that establishes requirements for the storage of salt and other solid de-icing materials on properties not owned or operated by the municipality (private properties). The purpose is to protect the environment, public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply. See [NJDEP Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program](#) for more details about salt storage requirements.

Ensuring that appropriate salt storage rules and regulations are being followed by all participants who utilize de-icing materials is essential for preventing stormwater pollution.

For more info:

- NJDEP Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program at <https://dep.nj.gov/njpdes-stormwater/municipal-stormwater-regulation-program/>
- EPA Polluted Runoff: Nonpoint Source Pollution at www.epa.gov/nps

