



---

**Date:** 2021-10-13

**From:** Steven Dollmaier, Director of Operations

**Subject:** Salt Management Plan

**Report:** OPS 2021-50

---

## Recommendation

That staff report OPS 2021-50 entitled "Salt Management Plan" be received; and

That Committee approve the Proposed Salt Management Plan, attached to this report as Schedule A; and

That a copy of the Proposed Salt Management Plan be provided to Environment Canada for information.

## Background

Road Salts are used in Canada as de-icing and anti-icing chemicals for winter road maintenance, with some use as summer dust suppressants.

A comprehensive five-year scientific assessment by Environment Canada determined that in sufficient concentrations, road salts pose a risk to plants, animals and the aquatic environment. A Risk Management Strategy for Road Salts was subsequently developed to outline the measures that Environment Canada proposes in order to manage the risks associated with road salts.

Under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, 1999, the Government of Canada published a Code of Practice for the Environmental Management of Road Salts on April 3, 2004. The Code is designed to help municipalities and other road authorities better manage their use of road salts in a way that reduces their impacts on the environment while maintaining road safety.

The Code of Practice recommends that road authorities prepare salt management plans that identify actions they will take to improve their practices in salt storage, general use

on roads and snow disposal. Environment Canada has completed a five-year review of progress that indicates the Code has been effective in increasing the use of best practices for managing road salts in Canada. The Code and Review were developed in consultation with a Multi-Stakeholder Working Group for Road Salts. The Government of Canada is not banning the use of road salts nor proposing any measures that would compromise or reduce road safety.<sup>1</sup>

## Analysis

The Salt Management Plan is activity-based and follows an Environmental Management System framework. It includes the following elements:

- Periodic review and analysis of legislative requirements and industry practices
- Implementation and documentation of the Salt Management Plan
- Education and training of staff
- Monitoring and analysis of operations
- Management review and revisions
- Environmental review
- Policy and practices revisions

The implementation and improvement of the SMP will promote the continuous development of practices and procedures to improve winter maintenance activities while striving to reduce the effects of road salt on the environment. The Salt Management Plan is a dynamic document, it will be reviewed and refined on an on-going basis and will function at all levels of the organization. All personnel related to winter maintenance have a role in ensuring that the SMP is implemented, monitored, improved and updated.

## Financial Impact

There are no financial implications to this report.

## Strategic Priorities

### **Demonstrate and Enhance Environmental Stewardship**

---

<sup>1</sup> Environment and Climate Change Canada; Roads Salts — Modified January 8, 2015.

The Township of Georgian Bluffs strives to become a leader in Environmental Stewardship by reducing energy consumption, reducing solid waste, increasing diversion rates of recyclable materials, and lessening the environmental impact of existing and future infrastructure through innovation and upgrading.

### 3.2 Protect environmentally sensitive areas and habitat.

## Conclusion

In order to provide a safe transportation network and meet Environment Canada's goal of managing the use of salt for winter maintenance, it is recommended that the 2021 Salt Management Plan, be adopted.

## Supporting Documentation

Schedule A – Georgian Bluffs Salt Management Plan

Respectfully Submitted: Steven Dollmaier, Director of Operations

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	OPS 2021-50 Salt Management Plan.docx
Attachments:	- Schedule A – Georgian Bluffs Salt Management Plan.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Oct 6, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Tim Lewis, Chief Building Official

Jenn Burnett, Senior Planner

Kassandra Rocca, Director of Finance

Brittany Drury, Interim CAO/Clerk