

Winter Maintenance Service

Our Aims

Our Aim is to make Wiltshire Roads as safe as possible by salting around 725miles (which is 25% of the entire road network). Each Precautionary salting costs on average £17,000. It uses 168 tonne of salt per run and the Council buys in roughly 14,000 tonne per season. After last season the Council was left with only 210 tonnes!

Our Aim is also to enable local communities to help themselves, by providing salt/grit bins, hand spreaders to town/parish councils and also 1 tonne salt bags for use on the highway!

It is unrealistic and uneconomic to salt all roads, but once a salting run is done the majority of road users will live within reasonable distance of a treated road.

How Salt Works

Salt is not as effective once the surface temperature reaches below -8°c.

Salt requires tyre action to make it more efficient.

If it rains then the salt will be washed off of the road, we always try and salt after it has rained.

Putting salt on thick snow will do nothing, the snow must be removed before salt is put down.

Grit Bin Tips

Firstly, salt/grit provided by the Council is intended for highway use only, not for private driveways or land.

You only need to put down 1 tablespoon of salt for one metre square of highway/pavement, this needs to be thinly spread to be most effective.

You can apply table salt to paths, pavements and highways

When it snows remember SHOVEL, SWEEP and then SALT

Don't use water, boiling or otherwise as this will quickly re-freeze leaving icy patches.

The Council has 1,600 grit bins and it uses 800 tonne of salt every time they are all filled.

If your Grit Bin is empty!

Contact Clarence on 0800 23 23 23 or email Clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk

Please note: Each grit bin is filled before the start of each season and then refilled when resources become available during winter.