Think of groundwater before salting your property

Salt is a major water quality concern. The salt spread on the ground does not go away. Eventually this salt mixes with groundwater; the water we drink. There are steps you can take to help.

www.regionofwaterloo.ca/SnowClearingTips
Help keep salt out of groundwater

Clear the snow before it packs down and turns to ice

If ice forms, break up with a steel chopper and clear away with a shovel

Add traction with sand, grit or non-clumping kitty litter

If salt is absolutely necessary:
- A sand and salt mix offers traction and ice melting with less salt.
- A little goes far. In many cases, a few tablespoons of salt for a one-metre square area is all you need.
- Spread salt evenly on icy areas only. Do not use salt to melt snow.
- Wait to reapply. Even when you cannot see it, salt is hard at work.
- Salt does not expire. Clean up spilled and excess salt for another time.

Did you know?
- Salt does not work when colder than -10°C.
- Environmentally friendly ice melters contain salt and are not water friendly.
- Once salt is in the water, there is no easy fix to remove it.

I’m your drinking water