

Manage your winter salt on commercial properties



Close areas instead of salting

Risk from potential slip and fall hazards is one reason we salt even when it is not necessary. But did you know salt is damaging to our community's drinking water?

Closing areas not needed in the winter can reduce your risk from potential slip and fall hazards and help keep salt out of water.

As part of your winter preparations, identify areas you can close without impeding emergency exits, accessibility ramps or entrances. Areas to close may include outdoor patios, overflow parking, redundant walkways or stairs.



Why close areas during the winter months?

- Reduce winter maintenance costs and repairs from salt damage
- Reduce risk from potential slip and fall hazards
- Be recognized as a community leader in water protection

“Reduction and elimination of harm to our environment, and especially our drinking water, is part of St. Peter's Church's commitment to a greener earth and a part of our stewardship ministry. We are pleased to partner with the Region of Waterloo's leadership in caring for our environment and the opportunity to work together to build a stronger community.”

David Roth. Parish Administrator St. Peter's Church. downtown Kitchener

Example wording for closed sign



Past participants

- Cambridge City Hall
- Centre in the Square
- Corporation Square
- Region of Waterloo
- St. Jerome's University
- St. Peter's Church
- Sunrise Centre
- The Boardwalk
- The Hamilton Family Theatre Cambridge
- Tri-city Centre
- Waterloo City Hall

Examples of areas organizations are closing

The Hamilton Family Theatre, Cambridge

Areas closed: two sections of stairs at the back of the building and a large patio area beside the front entrance

Total area closed: 164 m² (1,765 ft²)



The Centre in the Square, Kitchener

Areas closed: two large areas near the main entrance and stairs at back

Total area closed: 516m² (5,550 ft²)



The Boardwalk, Waterloo

Areas closed: walkways

Total area closed: 307 m² (3,300 ft²)



Alternate formats of this document available upon request.
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