

**TOWN OF LEICESTER
MASSACHUSETTS**

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HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

NEW SALTING & SANDING OPERATIONS

The Town of Leicester is always trying to keep our roads safe. Years ago, the Highway Department went from a heavy sand mix to a 50/50 sand & white salt mix, which worked great. We saved on man hours because, instead of using 24 loads of mix per storm, we went to 10 loads of 50/50 mix, saving time and materials on the same roads we have always done. This was done by cutting some of the sand out and adding a little more salt. A 50/50 mix of sand & salt will be used on all roads during an icing event.

Today, we have joined surrounding towns and trying something new again. This is a new salt called "ClearLane" or equal to. This is EPA recognized because it offers significant environmental benefits when using a proper application. It reduces impact on watersheds, aquatic life and road side vegetation when compared to other deicing methods.

This salt is brown or green and treated with a liquid magnesium chloride, a corrosion inhibitor and coloring agent. This salt will not bounce around like the white salt does and stays on the roads for a longer period of time. So the brown or green you see on the road is salt. It is safe just like the white salt is.

This will save money on our sweeping and catch basin cleaning in the spring because there will be very little to pick up. Some smaller streets will continue to be treated with a 50/50 mix because we have to travel much slower and we don't want to over use salt consumption.

A question that is asked frequently in other towns where this salt is being used is, "Is this salt safe for animals?" This salt product is no different than the white salt other than that you can see the liquid chloride and before you could not.

Any questions you may have can be directed to the Highway Superintendent at the Highway Department at 508-892-7021.