

## **CVC's Head Office Salt Study**

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**The Credit River Watershed** 

## **Chloride in our Watershed**





## **Chloride Trends**

- Road salt = NaCl
- 23 sites
- Increasing at 17 sites
- Decreasing at 3 sites
- Stable at 3 sites
- Exceeds (75<sup>th</sup> percentile) chronic objective at 11 sites
- Urban areas



## **11 real-time water quality stations**





## **Chloride in Cooksville Creek**



## Winter Maintenance 101



## **How Salt Works**

- Needs moisture to work
- Brine spreads, melts more snow, forms more brine...
- Only works to about -10 °C
- Additives (organic, other salts) can lower the effective working temperature







## **Best Practices: Brine/Liquids**

- Salt water
- Kick starts melting process
- Less chloride
- Anti-icing: apply brine  $\rightarrow$ snowfall  $\rightarrow$  plow  $\rightarrow$  salt (NaCl rock salt but much less!)
- Dilute brine with organic product like beet juice





## **Head Office Salt Study**



## **CVC Head Office Salt Management Plan**

- Encourage liquids and antiicing
- Do not use sand (can clog pavers)
- Liquids should not be used on permeable pavement?
- Excludes sidewalks



## Credit Valley Concervation Main Office Maintenance Zones

How well is the salt management plan working (i.e., liquids)?

How effective are liquids on permeable pavements?

## **Data Collection**

- Parking lots:
  - Contractor salt application
    data permeable and asphalt
  - Images from time lapse and security cameras
- Test plots:
  - Manually applied product and shoveled





## Credit Valley Conservation Head Office

## **Results – Parking Lots**







## 6:01 AM 02/18/2022

## **Bare Pavement Regain Time**

- Image classification into 6 categories
- Asphalt is usually wetter
- Permeable has dry snow









## Melting Patterns: Asphalt vs. Permeable



## **Results – Test Plots**



## **Study Design**

- 5 plots on permeable and asphalt
- 4 materials plus control
- Each plot received 1 material
  - Anti-icer
  - De-icer
- Cleared snow
- Measured friction at intervals







## **Conclusions**

- Conventional asphalt had faster BPRT, but not necessarily faster friction regain time.
- Any product (solid or liquid) is less efficient on permeable pavement than asphalt, if bare pavement is the goal. Some product will always be lost to infiltration.
- Enough liquid remained on permeable surface to have an impact.
- Need better definition of level of service on permeable pavements, bare pavement should not be the goal.
- Salt application rates on permeable should be reduced due to residual.

# inspired by nature



## Gaps or Still to Come

- How much chloride is used by the contractor in the rock salt only vs. anti-icing with beet juice scenarios?
  - No comparable events; test plots use same application rate
- BPRT on the controlled plots
  - Images are classified, need to crunch the data
- Beet brine on asphalt vs. permeable (~4 events)
  - Analysis to come