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Recycle Old Holiday Lights at City Hall

If you find some dead strings of holiday lights while decorating for the holiday season, you can bring them to Fitchburg City Hall for recycling through January 30, 2019. A special cart is now available 24 hours/day in the City Hall Lobby, 5520 Lacy Road. Fitchburg residents can drop off non-working holiday light strings and extension cords for recycling. Residents must remove any bulbs larger than marble-size and recycle those separately at participating stores.

Being Green: An Ecofriendly Guide to Surviving Winter

Tips from weatherproofing to a guilt-free Christmas, published in Scientific American
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/being-green-an-ecofriendly-guide/>



Holiday Waste Prevention

<https://lbre.stanford.edu/pssistanford-recycling/frequently-asked-questions/frequently-asked-questions-holiday-waste-prevention>

Learn about how to reduce waste during the holiday season, find gift suggestions that reduce waste, protect the planet, and consider green resolutions for 2019. This list of frequently asked questions about holiday waste prevention is from Stanford University.

Stay Home, Slow Down and Drive Safely This Winter

During big snow events, consider staying off the roads during major snow events to let the plows safely clear roads, sidewalks and parking lots. If you need to be out on the roads, here are some winter driving tips:

- Ice and snow, take it slow – slower speed, slower acceleration, slower steering and slower braking.
- If you have anti-lock brakes, press the pedal down firmly and hold it. If you do not have ABS brakes, gently pump the pedal.
- Brake early, brake correctly and never slam on the brakes.
- Even if you drive a SUV or four-wheel drive vehicle, you may not be able to stop any faster or maintain control any better once you lose traction. Four-wheel drive may get you going faster, but it won't help you stop sooner.
- Look further ahead in traffic than you normally would. Actions by other vehicles will alert you to the problems more quickly and give you extra time to react safely.
- Accelerate gradually and avoid abrupt steering maneuvers.
- Merge slowly since sudden movements can cause your vehicle to slide.

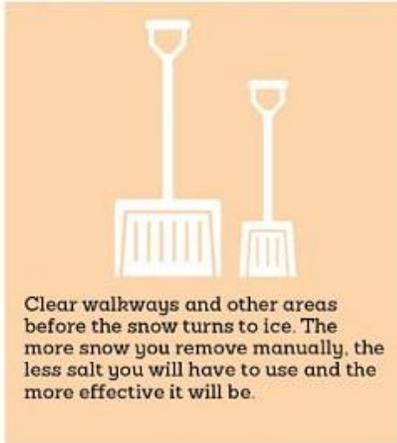


Consider a Low-Salt Diet for Your Sidewalks and Driveways This Winter

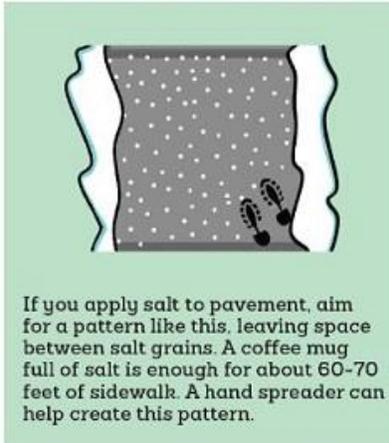
When snow and ice start to accumulate on Fitchburg roads, parking lots, and sidewalks, one of the most common strategies is to apply salt. While salt works well to melt ice and snow, unfortunately it contains chloride that dissolves in melt water and eventually washes into our lakes, rivers and streams. Once in the water, there's no way to remove the chloride, harming fish and plant life in our waters. Salt can also create costly repair bills when it corrodes steel on door jams or concrete.

Here are some ways for businesses and homeowners to reduce salt use while still making sure your sidewalks and driveways are safe:

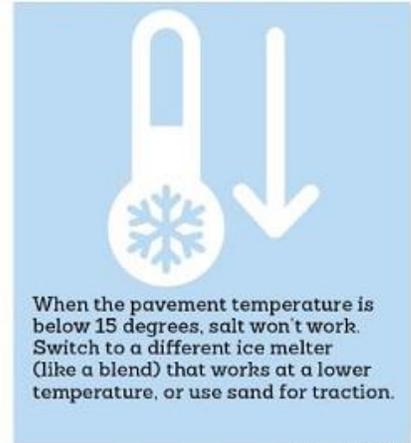
1. Shovel



2. Scatter



3. Switch



Wisconsin Salt Wise

- **Shovel.** The more snow and ice you remove manually, the less salt you will have to use and the salt can work more effectively. Break up ice with an ice scraper and then decide if application of a de-icer or sand is even necessary to maintain traction.
- **More salt does not mean more melting.** You only need about 8 oz of salt (a paper cup's worth) per 150 square feet of pavement (about the size of a parking space).
- **15 degrees F is too cold for salt to work.** Most salts stop working around this temperature. Instead, use sand for traction.
- **Sweep up extra salt.** If salt or sand is visible on dry pavement, it is no longer doing any work and will be washed away.

For more information, check out two videos on winter sidewalk and driveway maintenance, with tips on types of salt, when to use it and how much to use:

- Winter Sidewalk Salting Tips <https://youtu.be/mBcPOqpnrCU>
- Improved Winter Maintenance: Good Choices for Clean Water https://youtu.be/qc8Y-_Nmfm0

Save the Date!

WATER IN TWO PARTS: Waubesa Wetlands and Salt Reduction

Thursday, February 7th, 2019 at 6:00-7:30 pm
Fitchburg Public Library
Pizza and refreshments at 5:45 pm

Is an Electric Vehicle Right for You?

Prior planning is an important aspect of purchasing an electric vehicle. Luckily, you do not have to start from scratch, as there are many resources available to educate and prepare the new EV driver to hit the road. Check out one of the links below to find out if a zero emission electric vehicle is right for you!

<https://evolution.es.anl.gov/>
<https://content.sierraclub.org/evguide/pick-a-plugin>

Made the leap to the electric lifestyle? Find a place to plug in and help others who are pioneers like yourself!

<https://www.plugshare.com/>

Sustainable Fitchburg Online Map

Sustainability is more than energy efficiency and water conservation. We started a map of Sustainable Fitchburg to help everyone understand what sustainability means and why it's important. Readers will see that this map includes environmental, economic, and social components.

Access the Sustainable Fitchburg online map through the Green Fitchburg website <http://www.fitchburgwi.gov/142/Green-Fitchburg>

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<http://www.fitchburgwi.gov/list.aspx>
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Please send questions, comments, and/or suggestions for future Green E-News topics to Ellen Geisler, Sustainability Specialist, at ellen.geisler@fitchburgwi.gov or 270-4274

