

February Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

TO: Nine Mile Creek Citizen Advisory Committee
FROM: Claire Bleser, Education and Outreach Coordinator
DATE: January 27, 2010
RE: CAC February 10th Meeting

Dear CAC members,

Our Salt Application for Homeowners Seminar provided great tips on how we can keep our driveways and walkways safe and at the same time minimize our salt imprint on our waters. The presentation gave us a good understanding of how salts are impacting our waters but also provided us with tips in reducing/ eradicating salt usage on our driveways and walkways. Below are four easy practices you can follow this winter:

1. **Shovel, snow blow, plow or sweep.** These are effective measures that will remove snow and minimize the likelihood of ice build-up.
2. If needs be, apply a liquid deicer **before** the storm. This will prevent the snow from bonding to the pavement. However, it should not be used as a substitute to shoveling. (Liquid deicers contain less salts than granular blends per application but are just as effective)
3. **Less is better.** The effective application rate for salts is **1-3 cups per 1,000 square feet**. If you still have salt crystals after the ice is gone you have over applied. Sweep up excess and reuse later or dispose in the trash. Shoveling is still the most effective way in preventing ice build-up.
4. At **low temperatures**, salt begins to be ineffective; check your product for details. Consider applying **sand** as an abrasive.

Our next CAC meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 10th starting at 6:30 pm** at the District Office (7710 Computer Ave Suite 135 in Edina). The meeting will showcase previous cost-share/grants recipients and will answer any questions you might have on this year's application (Now available on our website under the announcement section.) If you would like a paper copy, please contact me. **Deadline for the applications is April 2nd, 2010**

Another event of interest this month is the Bloomington Home Improvement Show on February 20th at the Bloomington Civic Plaza from 9:30am to 2:30pm. We will also be at Eden Prairie's Home, Landscape, Garden and Everything Spring Expo on March 20th at Grace Church in Eden Prairie. Come and stop by the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District booth. If you would like to volunteer and represent the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District CAC for an hour or more on any of these days, please contact me.

Don't forget the NMCWD will be sponsoring a raingarden talk on March 10, 2010 at the District Office.

Thanks!

