

# Final Abstract

Final Report Approved on February 7, 2025

## M.L. 2020 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2024

**Project Title:** Chloride Pollution Reduction

**Project Manager:** Brooke Asleson

**Affiliation:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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**Funding Source:**

**Fiscal Year:**

**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 5, Sec. 2, Subd. 20a4

**Appropriation Amount:** \$500,000

**Amount Spent:** \$500,000

**Amount Remaining:** -

### Sound bite of Project Outcomes and Results

This goal of this project was to support the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Program that offers trainings, resources, and tools to organizations and communities across Minnesota in reducing salt use and protecting water resources. Funds were allocated to a chloride reduction grant and the MPCA's Smart Salting training program.

### Overall Project Outcome and Results

The MPCA's Chloride Reduction program's goal is to provide communities, organizations, and businesses across Minnesota with education, training, and assistance in reducing chloride at the source to protect Minnesota's surface and ground water sources. Chloride is a permanent pollutant that is toxic to freshwater fish, insect, amphibians and native plants. These funds helped to support, enhance, and expand the program which was created in 2021. Support was provided to the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Grant program and allowed the program to offer it's second grant, which was awarded to a consultant who partnered with 2 Minnesota communities with elevated chloride to implement local rebate programs to optimize, upgrade, and replace water softeners. The rest of the funds were allocated to support the highly successful MPCA Smart Salting training program that provides education, certification training, and assistance to plow drivers, private snow and ice contractors, building and property managers, environmental professionals, MPCA

permit staff, and winter maintenance managers. Forty-two certification trainings were offered and held online allowing statewide participation. The average number of registered training participants was 28, training roughly 1,200 individuals on ways to reduce salt use and keep paved surfaces safe. Organizations who implement the practices taught in our program reduce salt use by an average of 40%. A new training manual was created to support the Smart Salting for Roads training allowing the MPCA to create a manual that is specific to the needs of cities and counties. Two new training refreshers were also created, Smart Salting 101 and Winter Weather, that provide in-depth education and resources to assist winter maintenance organizations safely reduce salt use. Additional support was provided to the MPCA's existing Smart Salting Tool, expanding the application to include fertilizer and water softening sources of chloride. This project directly reduced chloride pollution to water resources.

### **Project Results Use and Dissemination**

The ENTRF logo and funding acknowledgement was included in all materials, promotion and reports developed for the chloride reduction grant that was awarded. Trainings offered as part of this project included acknowledgement of ENTRF during the live online trainings, and is included in the new Smart Salting for Roads manual.



## Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2020 Approved Final Report

### General Information

**Date:** February 10, 2025

**ID Number:** 2020-086

**Staff Lead:** Michael Varien

**Project Title:** Chloride Pollution Reduction

**Project Budget:** \$500,000

### Project Manager Information

**Name:** Brooke Asleson

**Organization:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**Office Telephone:** (651) 757-2205

**Email:** brooke.asleson@state.mn.us

**Web Address:** <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/>

### Project Reporting

**Final Report Approved:** February 7, 2025

**Reporting Status:** Project Completed

**Date of Last Action:** February 7, 2025

**Project Completion:** June 30, 2024

### Legal Information

**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 5, Sec. 2, Subd. 20a4

**Appropriation Language:** The appropriation in Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (c), Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement, in the amount of \$2,768,000, no longer needed for its original purpose is transferred as follows:

(4) \$500,000 is transferred to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency for activities, training, and grants that reduce chloride pollution. Of this amount, \$250,000 is for grants for upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units. Priority for grants must be given to facilities needing improvements to comply with chloride water quality

standards;

(d) Transfers and Availability

The transfers under this subdivision are effective June 30, 2021, and the transferred amounts are available until June 30, 2023.

M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 19 Carryforward; Extensions, (b) The availability of the transfers for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2024: (4) Laws of 2021 First Special Session, chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 20, paragraph (a), clause (4), Chloride Pollution Reduction

**Appropriation End Date:** June 30, 2024

## Narrative

**Project Summary:** This project will provide support to the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Program that offers training, resources, assistance, and tools to organizations and communities in reducing salt use and protecting water resources.

**Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.**

Chloride is a permanent pollutant and does not break down or change over time. It is toxic to aquatic life. The primary sources of chloride causing water quality problems are de-icing salt, salt used for water softening systems, fertilizer, and dust control practices. The chloride water quality standard to protect aquatic life is 230 mg/liter (equivalent to 1 teaspoon in 5 gallons of water). Once chloride enters our lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater, it is extremely expensive and not feasible to remove it. Recent monitoring of shallow groundwater and surface water shows increasing chloride concentrations across Minnesota. Therefore reducing chloride at the source and preventing it from entering our surface and groundwater is critical.

**What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? Introduce us to the work you are seeking funding to do. You will be asked to expand on this proposed solution in Activities & Milestones.**

The MPCA's existing Chloride Reduction Program which is funded by the Clean Water Fund, provides a wide range of audiences with training, assistance including chloride reduction grants and additional resources to effectively reduce chloride in their organization or community. This project will provide funding to support these specific areas of the program: Chloride Reduction Grants program, Smart Salting Training program, and the Smart Salting tool. The MPCA offered its first competitive chloride reduction grant in May of 2021 with Clean Water Funds. Through this project we will offer an additional competitive grant in the Fall of 2021 to reduce chloride pollution coming from water softening units in communities with elevated chloride in their wastewater discharge or surface waters. As with the previous Chloride Reduction grant, this grant will follow the state's competitive grant process. This project will also provide financial support to the Smart Salting training program through a combination of offering classes to audience across the state and creating additional training program material's. The Smart Salting tool, which is a web-based program originally designed for winter maintenance professionals, will be expanded by incorporating additional guidance for reducing chloride from additional sources, such as water softening through this project.

**What are the specific project outcomes as they relate to the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's natural resources?**

The goal of the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Program is to reduce chloride (salt) entering Minnesota's surface waters and groundwater. This project will allow the MPCA to leverage existing resources and provide additional resources and support to our partners, permittees, businesses, and residents. Those who attend the MPCA Smart Salting training program and utilize the Smart Salting tool and implement the recommendations have been able to achieve an over salt reduction of 30-60%. By offering up to 50 classes we expect to train up to 1,000 individuals with these funds.

## Project Location

**What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?**

Statewide

**What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?**

Statewide

**When will the work impact occur?**

During the Project and In the Future

## Activities and Milestones

### Activity 1: Water Softening grant

**Activity Budget:** \$250,000

**Activity Description:**

The MPCA will provide \$250,000 in grant funds to eligible organizations for upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units to reduce chloride pollution in targeted communities using the state's competitive grant process. This includes MPCA staff creating a Request For Proposals (RFP), posting it in the state's system, promoting the RFP, reviewing applications through a review team, selecting a recipient(s) based on criteria that will be developed by contracts staff and the MPCA project manager during RFP development and will be designed to meet the requirements of the appropriation language as well as the MPCA criteria to ensure a fair process, and then writing a contract to award the funds to the recipient(s). The grantee will be required to use the funds to develop and administer a project that will upgrade, optimize, or replace water softener units in communities with elevated chloride. The goal for this grant will be to reduce chloride pollution and the grantee will be required to estimate the achieved chloride reductions.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
publish water softening grant RFP	November 30, 2021
review proposals	December 31, 2021
award grant	January 31, 2022
Grantee to submit final report	June 30, 2023

### Activity 2: Smart Salting training program support

**Activity Budget:** \$165,300

**Activity Description:**

This objective will support the existing MPCA Smart Salting training program. There are 4 Smart Salting classes offered that includes 2 classes designed specifically for winter maintenance professionals, Roads and Parking Lot's and Sidewalks which teaches practical practices for efficient and effective winter maintenance that provides a high level of winter safety while minimizing environmental impacts. The Level 2 class makes use of the Smart Salting tool and provides organizations the opportunity to evaluate their entire operations and find area for improvement and cost savings. The 4th class offered is intended for a wider audience including those who manage properties, to learn about the impacts salt has on the environment and steps they can take to minimize salt. This includes offering and supporting up to 50 Smart Salting training classes, creating new training content, and support training materials and resources. MPCA staff and Smart Salting program contractor will work together to schedule and host classes for a variety of audiences. New training content to improve the existing program will be developed such as new refresher courses, an updated manual for the Smart Salting for Roads class, as well as minor updates to existing training content and materials as budget.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Offer and teach up to 50 Smart Salting training classes	June 30, 2023
Create new Smart Salting training materials and content	June 30, 2023
Print manuals and class materials	June 30, 2023

### Activity 3: Update and expand the Smart Salting tool

**Activity Budget:** \$84,700

**Activity Description:**

The current Smart Salting tool is a valuable web-based Smart Salting training program resource in evaluating an organizations current practices and providing guidance for improving practices to reduce salt use. This online tool will allow organizations to create a customized local de-icing and dust suppressant salt reduction strategy by evaluating their current winter maintenance practices to determine if they are considered to be "poor" "acceptable" or "advanced" practices. The tool generates reports they provide specific changes that can be made to each individual practice to improve effectiveness and reduce salt use. These reports can also be used to document and track the progress a city/county/DOT or private organizations has

made to reduce de-icing salt use. The MPCA recently hired contractors to develop the framework and guidance to expand the current tool to include additional sources of chloride such as water softening and fertilizer and audiences such as communities.

This project will fund a portion of the implementation of the recent enhancement recommendations. The full implementation of the updates and enhancements to the existing Smart Salting tool will be funded through a separate project that does have funding support to move forward at the same time as this project.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Establish expert advisory teams to advise updates of the Smart Salting tool	December 31, 2021
Test and refine implementation of tool updates	January 31, 2023
Develop document with new features and updates for tool contractor to implement	June 30, 2023

## Dissemination

**Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.**

The MPCA Smart Salting program has a program website, newsletter, and training classes where information about the available products, classes and other resources will be shared widely and will follow the ENRTF acknowledgement requirements and guidelines.

## Long-Term Implementation and Funding

**Describe how the results will be implemented and how any ongoing effort will be funded. If not already addressed as part of the project, how will findings, results, and products developed be implemented after project completion? If additional work is needed, how will this work be funded?**

The MPCA has a recently established Chloride Reduction Program that provides communities, businesses, and professionals with training, resources, assistance and tools to reduce chloride pollution and protect water resources. These funds will allow the program to provide additional assistance directly to communities through a water softening grant as stated in the appropriation language, increase the number of Smart Salting training classes offered, and make improvements to the Smart Salting tool.



## Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
<b>Personnel</b>										
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
<b>Contracts and Services</b>										
TBD	Subaward	Water softening grant awarded to eligible organization(s) to reduce chloride pollution from water softening units in targeted communities.				-		\$250,000	\$250,000	-
Fortin Consulting	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The existing contract with the MPCA's Smart Salting program hired contractor will be utilized for this project. The MPCA followed the Professional/Technical contract single source request process and received approval from the Department of Administration to contract with Fortin Consulting for Smart Salting Program support.				1.13		\$230,000	\$230,000	-
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$480,000</b>	<b>\$480,000</b>	-
<b>Equipment, Tools, and Supplies</b>										
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>										
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
<b>Acquisitions and Stewardship</b>										
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
<b>Travel In Minnesota</b>										

							<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
<b>Travel Outside Minnesota</b>										
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
<b>Printing and Publication</b>										
	Printing	Smart Salting training manuals and materials	Training manuals and materials are provided to training participants to use during and after attending class.					\$20,000	\$20,000	-
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	-
<b>Other Expenses</b>										
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
							<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	-

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
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Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	\$ Amount	\$ Amount Spent	\$ Amount Remaining
<b>State</b>						
Cash	Clean Water Fund FY22-23: Chapter 1 - H.F. No. 13	The MPCA received FY22-23 Clean Water Funds to support the Chloride Reduction Program.	Secured	\$520,000	\$281,213	\$238,787
			<b>State Sub Total</b>	<b>\$520,000</b>	<b>\$281,213</b>	<b>\$238,787</b>
<b>Non-State</b>						
			<b>Non State Sub Total</b>	-	-	-
			<b>Funds Total</b>	<b>\$520,000</b>	<b>\$281,213</b>	<b>\$238,787</b>

## Attachments

### Required Attachments

#### *Visual Component*

File: [7226e4ec-a23.pdf](#)

#### *Alternate Text for Visual Component*

Chloride enters Minnesota's surface and groundwater from a variety of sources. The primary sources are de-icers use for winter maintenance, water softening salt, fertilizer, and dust control practices....

### Supplemental Attachments

#### *Capital Project Questionnaire, Budget Supplements, Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other*

Title	File
Background check	<a href="#">e8665afe-f13.pdf</a>
Water Softening rebate program flyer	<a href="#">d19728e1-4bb.pdf</a>
Water Softening rebate program flyer in Spanish	<a href="#">6c777349-cd5.pdf</a>
Water Softening Grant final report	<a href="#">05414e47-c94.pdf</a>
List of MPCA Smart Salting trainings funded	<a href="#">6f6f02f0-fec.xlsx</a>
MPCA Smart Salting for Roads Manual	<a href="#">d9312a33-478.pdf</a>
Smart Salting Salt Bucket sticker	<a href="#">4c47d146-77f.jpe</a>

#### *Media Links*

Title	Link
MPCA Smart Salting Tool	<a href="https://smartsaltingtool.com/">https://smartsaltingtool.com/</a>
MPCA Smart Salting Training program	<a href="https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/smart-salting-training">https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/smart-salting-training</a>

### Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

#### *Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage*

There was not a proposal submitted for this project.

## Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

The following are acknowledgements and conditions beyond those already included in the above workplan:

**Do you understand and acknowledge the ENRTF repayment requirements if the use of capital equipment changes?**

N/A

**Do you understand that travel expenses are only approved if they follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?**

N/A

**Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, sale of products and assets, or revenue generation?**

No

**Do you understand and acknowledge IP and revenue-return and sharing requirements in 116P.10?**

N/A

**Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF?**

N/A

**Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?**

No

**Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?**

No

## Work Plan Amendments

Amendment ID	Request Type	Changes made on the following pages	Explanation & justification for Amendment Request (word limit 75)	Date Submitted	Approved	Date of LCCMR Action
1	Completion Date	Previous Completion Date: 06/30/2023 New Completion Date: 06/30/2024	funds were extended to June 30, 2024 and project requires the additional year to complete the deliverables.	June 14, 2023	Yes	June 14, 2023
2	Completion Date	Previous Completion Date: 06/30/2024 New Completion Date: 03/31/2025	Staff correction to address the final reporting logic conundrum	October 14, 2024	Yes	October 14, 2024

# Status Update Reporting

## Final Status Update August 14, 2024

**Date Submitted:** November 21, 2024

**Date Approved:** December 23, 2024

### Overall Update

This goal of this project is to provide support to the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Program that offers trainings, resources, assistance, and tools to organizations and communities across Minnesota in reducing salt use and protecting water resources. The funds have been allocated to MPCA's contractors to support a water softener rebate program grant and support the MPCA's Smart Salting training program. All the funds were spent as of June 30, 2024.

### Activity 1

The MPCA grant awarded to Bolton & Menck in January 2022 to create and implement a water softener rebate program with the goal of upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units to reduce chloride pollution in the cities of Marshall and Worthington continues to work with residents and businesses in their communities.

*(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)*

### Activity 2

This activity was previously marked complete.

*(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)*

### Activity 3

This activity was previously marked complete.

*(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)*

### Dissemination

The ENRTF logo has been added to all project materials developed.



# Status Update Reporting

## Status Update April 1, 2024

**Date Submitted:** July 2, 2024

**Date Approved:** October 14, 2024

### Overall Update

This goal of this project is to provide support to the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Program that offers trainings, resources, assistance, and tools to organizations and communities across Minnesota in reducing salt use and protecting water resources. The funds have been allocated to MPCA's contractors to support a water softener rebate program grant and support the MPCA's Smart Salting training program. Those funds continue to be spent to support chloride reduction activities.

### Activity 1

The MPCA grant awarded to Bolton & Menck in January 2022 to create and implement a water softener rebate program with the goal of upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units to reduce chloride pollution in the cities of Marshall and Worthington continues to work with residents and businesses in their communities.

### Activity 2

The ENRTF funds began being used to support the MPCA's Smart Salting certification & training program in January of 2022. 34 Smart Salting classes were offered virtually to communities and organizations across the state. The trainings offered through these funds include Smart Salting for Roads, Smart Salting for Parking Lots & Sidewalks, and Smart Salting for Property Management. In addition, a new Roads manual for the Smart Salting for Roads training has been created with guidance from a technical expert committee and is now in use and available on the MPCA's Smart Salting training website.

*(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)*

### Activity 3

In February 2022 work on the technical content of the MPCA's online Smart Salting tool began to support the MPCA's Smart Salting tool expansion project. The new content includes detailed information regarding additional sources of chloride including water softening activities and fertilizer. The updated tool also a wide range of strategies and guidance for reducing the primary sources of chloride in Minnesota (deicers, water softening, and fertilizer). The work funded through this project is matched with MPCA funds to hire a contractor to build and implement the online tool. The final updates were completed in July 2023 and the updated tool is now available online for users.

*(This activity marked as complete as of this status update)*

### Dissemination

The ENRTF logo has been added to all training content being supported with these funds. It was also posted on all materials developed as part of the water softening grant project.

# Status Update Reporting

## Status Update October 1, 2023

**Date Submitted:** October 10, 2023

**Date Approved:** January 17, 2024

### **Overall Update**

This goal of this project is to provide support to the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Program that offers trainings, resources, assistance, and tools to organizations and communities across Minnesota in reducing salt use and protecting water resources. The funds have been allocated to MPCA's contractors to support a water softener rebate program grant and support the MPCA's Smart Salting training program. Those funds continue to be spent to support chloride reduction activities.

### **Activity 1**

The MPCA grant awarded to Bolton & Menck in January 2022 to create and implement a water softener rebate program with the goal of upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units to reduce chloride pollution in the cities of Marshall and Worthington continues to work with residents and businesses in their communities.

### **Activity 2**

The ENRTF funds began being used to support the MPCA's Smart Salting certification & training program in January of 2022. To date 34 Smart Salting classes have been offered virtually to communities and organizations across the state. The trainings offered through these funds include Smart Salting for Roads, Smart Salting for Parking Lots & Sidewalks, and Smart Salting for Property Management. In addition, a new Roads manual for the Smart Salting for Roads training has been created with guidance from a technical expert committee and is now in use and available on the MPCA's Smart Salting training website.

### **Activity 3**

In February 2022 work on the technical content of the MPCA's online Smart Salting tool began to support the MPCA's Smart Salting tool expansion project. The new content includes detailed information regarding additional sources of chloride including water softening activities and fertilizer. The updated tool also a wide range of strategies and guidance for reducing the primary sources of chloride in Minnesota (deicers, water softening, and fertilizer). The work funded through this project is matched with MPCA funds to hire a contractor to build and implement the online tool. The final updates were completed in July 2023 and the updated tool is now available online for users.

### **Dissemination**

The ENRTF logo has been added to all training content being supported with these funds. It was also posted on all materials developed as part of the water softening grant project.

# Status Update Reporting

## Status Update April 1, 2023

**Date Submitted:** June 26, 2023

**Date Approved:** August 8, 2023

### Overall Update

This goal of this project is to provide support to the MPCA's Chloride Reduction Program that offers trainings, resources, assistance, and tools to organizations and communities across Minnesota in reducing salt use and protecting water resources. The funds have been allocated to MPCA's contractors to support a water softener rebate program grant and support the MPCA's Smart Salting training program.

### Activity 1

The MPCA awarded Bolton & Menck a grant in January 2022 in the amount of \$250,000 to create and implement a water softener rebate program with the goal of upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units to reduce chloride pollution in the cities of Marshall and Worthington using the state's competitive grant process.

### Activity 2

The ENRTF funds began being used to support the MPCA's Smart Salting certification & training program in January of 2022. To date 30 Smart Salting classes have been offered virtually to communities and organizations across the state. The trainings offered through these funds include Smart Salting for Roads, Smart Salting for Parking Lots & Sidewalks, and Smart Salting for Property Management. In addition, a new Roads manual for the Smart Salting for Roads training has been created with guidance from a technical expert committee and is in the final stages of editing and formatting.

### Activity 3

In February 2022 work on the technical content of the MPCA's online Smart Salting tool began to support the MPCA's Smart Salting tool expansion project. The new content includes detailed information regarding additional sources of chloride including water softening activities and fertilizer. The updated tool also a wide range of strategies and guidance for reducing the primary sources of chloride in Minnesota (deicers, water softening, and fertilizer). The work funded through this project is matched with MPCA funds to hire a contractor to build and implement the online tool. The final updates are in progress for the expansion of the tool. It is currently out for project team review.

### Dissemination

The ENRTF logo has been added to all training content being supported with these funds. It was also posted on all materials developed as part of the water softening grant project.

# Status Update Reporting

## Status Update October 1, 2022

**Date Submitted:** June 26, 2023

**Date Approved:** August 8, 2023

### Overall Update

Two contracts are in place for this work and the contractors have been conducting the work of hosting & support the Smart Salting training program and assisting two communities with establishing water softening rebate programs.

### Activity 1

Grant was awarded & executed in March 2022, so we are ahead of schedule on that deliverable.

### Activity 2

The ENRTF funds began being used to support the MPCA's Smart Salting training program in January of 2022. To date 25 Smart Salting classes have been offered. Work to create a new Roads manual for the Smart Salting for Roads class is underway and progressing.

### Activity 3

In February work on the technical content of the Smart Salting tool began to support the MPCA's Smart Salting tool expansion project.

### Dissemination

The ENRTF logo has been added to all training content being supported with these funds. It was also posted on all materials developed as part of the water softening grant project.

# Status Update Reporting

## Status Update April 1, 2022

**Date Submitted:** April 12, 2022

**Date Approved:** April 18, 2022

### **Overall Update**

The MPCA now has contracts in place using the ENRTF funds to support the Chloride Reduction Program. This includes a contract to support the Smart Salting training program and a new grant to address water softening activities.

### **Activity 1**

A competitive request for proposals was completed and contractor was selected in December 2021. The grant is now in place and work has begun by the contractor.

### **Activity 2**

The ENRTF funds began being used to support the MPCA's Smart Salting training program in January of 2022. To date 10 Smart Salting classes have been offered. Work to create a new Roads manual for the Smart Salting for Roads class is also underway.

### **Activity 3**

The initial work to reach out to experts to assist in the development of the advanced Smart Salting tool has begun. The contractor has also begun to investigate the new reporting features that will be added to the tool as well.

### **Dissemination**

The ENRTF logo has been added to all training content being supported with these funds. It was also posted on the MPCA's website for the request for proposals and will be on an materials developed by the grant.