

# Winter Maintenance Guidelines for Porous Asphalt



## General Maintenance

- Plow after every storm. Special plow blades may be used to prevent scarring but are not necessary. Raised blade is not recommended
- Up to ~75% net salt reductions for porous asphalt have been documented.  
**USE SALT REDUCTION NUMBERS WITH CAUTION!!!**
- Excess salt application maybe needed during challenging storm events. Salt reductions typically occur between storm events with no black ice formation.
- Salt reduction amounts are site specific and are affected by degree of shading and hours of operation.
- Apply anti-icing treatments prior to storms. Anti-icing has the potential to provide the benefit of increased traffic safety at the lowest cost and with less environmental impact.
- Apply deicing treatments during, and after storms as necessary to control compact snow and ice not removed by plowing.
- Sand application should be limited since its use will increase the need for vacuuming.
- Mixed precipitation and compact snow or ice is problematic for all paved surfaces, but is particularly problematic for porous surfaces. This is corrected by application of excess deicing chemicals.
- Recommended posting of signs indicating difference of performance after sunrise and sunset.

## During Event

- Apply standard amounts of deicing agents during storm events.
- Amounts will be adjusted based on site specific requirements, hours of operation, and degree of shading.
- Additional Deicing may be required during challenging storm events.

## Between Storms

- Deicing is NOT required for black ice development. Meltwater readily drains through porous surfaces thereby preventing black ice.
- Night time deicing may require additional maintenance activities.
- Daytime deicing may be minimal once pavement is exposed to sunlight.

## Additional Resources

- The UNH Stormwater Center: <http://www.unh.edu/erg/cstev/>
- Pennsylvania Asphalt Pavement Association (PAPA) Porous Asphalt Pavements Guide: <http://www.pahotmix.org/PDF/porous1.pdf>
- National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) Porous Asphalt Pavements for Stormwater Management Revised 11/2008, Information Series 131