

**CITY OF GRANT**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**  
**ORDINANCE 2022-69**

**An Ordinance Amending the Grant Code of Ordinances Chapter 12 Environment  
Adding Article VIII Chloride Reduction**

The City Council of the City of Grant, Washington County, Minnesota, does hereby ordain as follows:

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 12, ENVIRONMENT, OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES.**

That City Code Chapter 12, Environment Article VIII Chloride Reduction is hereby ADDED in its entirety to the Code of Ordinances:

**Article VIII Chloride Reduction**

**Sec. 12-273. Definitions.**

The following words, terms, phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Anti-icing* means the application of a liquid deicer prior to the onset of a snow event.

*Best Management Practice (BMP)* means structural, vegetative, or managerial practices used to treat, prevent, or reduce water pollution.

*Certified Salt Applicator* means an individual who applies deicer and has completed Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Smart Salting training (Level 1 or 2).

*Deicer* means any substance used to melt snow and ice or used for its anti-icing effects.

*Winter Maintenance Professional* means an individual who applies deicer for hire (i.e. snow plow drivers, salt truck drivers).

**Sec. 12-274. Intent and purpose.**

(a) The removal of snow and ice from roadways is essential to both public safety and to the local economy and in order to protect the public safety, during and after winter storm events, the use of pavement deicing chemicals is a widely accepted means of keeping roadways passable; and

(b) Pavement deicing is typically accomplished through the use of deicers which can be corrosive to vehicles, roadway surfaces, and bridges and has been found to have adverse effects on the surface waters, groundwater and to environmentally sensitive areas; and

(c) The restoration of surface and ground water quality and ecosystems in such areas can be very difficult and costly, if not impossible to rehabilitate through reverse osmosis, once the events or contamination occur; and

(d) Proper utilization and management of deicing materials is critical to ensure that the environmental impacts of related practices are reduced to the maximum extent possible; and

(e) Negative environmental impacts may occur when salt and other deicers are not properly stored and transported; and

(f) One of the primary sources of chloride entering the ground water is salt spillage that is either plowed or washed from maintenance yards, unloading, and loading areas and it is necessary to regulate all persons engaged in the storage and use of bulk deicing materials on their property and elsewhere in order to reduce the costly impacts of such use to the surrounding vegetation, surface water and ground water; and

**Sec. 12-275. Occupational Licensure for Winter Maintenance Professionals.**

(a) *Applicability.* No person will engage in the operation of a winter maintenance business for the private operation of a snowplowing service or the use or storage of salt or other deicing materials, or to assist others in the same for the purpose of managing ice and snow from private roadways, parking areas, and sidewalks on commercial, industrial, institutional, office, multi-family and private single-family residential dwellings without being in compliance with the terms and provisions of this chapter.

(b) *Certification Required.*

(1) All persons engaged in the operation of a winter maintenance business for the private operation of a snowplowing service or the use or storage of salt or other deicing materials must employ an individual who possesses current Smart Salting Level 1 and Level 2 Certification from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. This individual must be responsible for the application of appropriate deicing material at the proper amount and rate; the employment of correct procedures for temperature and conditions; accurate record-keeping and data recordation; and calibration of equipment annually. In the event of a major storm emergency, the licensing official may exempt winter maintenance professionals from the requirements of this section for services completed under contract with the City of Grant.

(c) *Deicer Storage Requirements.*

(1) All persons must employ best management practices to minimize the discharge of polluted runoff from salt and deicer storage and application as follows:

- i. Designated salt and deicer storage areas must be covered or indoors;
- ii. Designated salt and deicer storage areas must be located on an impervious surface; and
- iii. Implementation of practices to reduce exposure when transferring material in designated salt and deicer storage areas (e.g., sweeping, diversions, and/or containment).

**Sec. 12-276. Deicer Bulk Storage Facility Regulations.**

(a) *Applicability.*

(1) The following sections apply to all indoor and outdoor bulk deicer storage facilities (temporary and permanent) including salt piles, salt bag storage, sand piles and other storage of deicing materials. Bulk storage, as regulated by this chapter, is defined as storage of any material used for deicing and/or traction during winter conditions that is more than five tons in solid form (or 1,000 gallons in liquid form).

(b) *General Requirements.*

(1) Indoor operations for the storage of deicing materials must be provided wherever possible in order to prevent such materials from being affected by rain, snow and melt water.

(2) All salt, sand and other deicing materials stored outdoors must be covered at all times.

- i. When not using a permanent roof, a waterproof impermeable, flexible cover must be placed over all storage piles (to protect against precipitation and surface water runoff). The cover must prevent runoff and leachate from being generated by the outdoor storage piles. The cover must be secured to prevent removal by wind or other storm events. Piles must be formed in a conical shape and covered as necessary to prevent leaching.

- ii. Any roof leaks, tears or damage should be temporarily repaired during winter to reduce the entrance of precipitation. Permanent repairs must be completed prior to the next winter season.

(c) *Facility Siting.*

- (1) The facility must be in close proximity to the area in which the deicing materials are to be used, if practical.
- (2) Each facility must be located outside of floodplains and 300 feet from lakes, rivers, streams, ditches, storm drains, manholes, catch basins, wetlands and any other areas likely to absorb runoff. A facility must not be located in close proximity to surface water features, water supplies, wells or drywells.
- (3) A facility must be located on impermeable surfaces.
- (4) The property slope must be away from the facility's salt, deicer, and sand storage area.
- (5) Salt vulnerable/intolerant natural areas should be avoided as storage facilities to the extent possible. Where they cannot be avoided, specific measures should be instituted to protect vulnerable areas. Salt vulnerable/intolerant natural areas include, but are not limited to:
  - i. Areas with salt sensitive vegetation
  - ii. Areas serving as a source of drinking water (surface water and ground water)
  - iii. Areas with bodies of water with low dilution, low volume or salt sensitive species
  - iv. Areas associated with ground water recharge zones or shallow water table, with medium to high permeable soils

(d) *Snow Piles*

- (1) Snow piles must be located downslope from salt and deicer storage areas to prevent the snow melt from flowing through storage areas and carrying material to the nearest drainage system or waterway.

(e) *Deicer Truck Wash Water*

- (1) Deicer- and salt-containing truck wash water must be captured, treated, and recycled for use as saltbrine in pre-wetting and anti-icing activities.

(f) *Transfer of Materials*

- (1) Practices must be implemented in order to reduce exposure (e.g., sweeping, diversions, and/or containment) when transferring salt or other deicing material.

**Sec. 12-277. Land Disturbance Permitting.**

(a) *Chloride Management*

- (1) An applicant for a permit for land-disturbing activity on property other than individual single-family home sites must provide a plan for post-construction management of chloride use on the site that includes, at a minimum:
  - i. Designation of an individual authorized to implement the chloride-use plan; and
  - ii. Designation of a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Smart Salting-certified salt applicator engaged in the implementation of the chloride-use plan for the site.

**Sec. 12-278. Parking Lot, Sidewalk and Private Road Sweeping Requirements.**

(a) *Sweeping of Parking Lot, Sidewalk, and Private Roads*

- (1) Every owner or occupant of any dwelling or other residential building, proprietor or lessee of any business, commercial or public premises, or [insert other entities as appropriate such as homeowner's associations] within the City of Grant, must conform to ice and snow removal specified under [code section]. If dry deicing material is spread, it must be properly swept and disposed of immediately after snow melt. If an

owner, occupant, proprietor or lessee neglects or refuses to sweep excess deicing material, the City of Grant may sweep such material or authorize some person to do the same on behalf of the City of Grant. The City of Grant, in its sole discretion, may issue notices of violation to an owner, lessee, proprietor, or occupant for violations of this section.

**SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.**

In the event that a court of competent jurisdiction adjudges any part of this ordinance to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect any other provisions of this ordinance not specifically included within that judgment.

**SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This ordinance takes effect upon its adoption and publication according to law.

WHEREUPON, a vote, being taken upon a motion by Council member \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by Council member \_\_\_\_\_, the following upon roll call:

Voting AYE:  
Voting NAY:

Whereupon said Ordinance was declared passed adopted this \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Huber, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest: Kim Points, City Clerk