

## **BMP 45.00. Snow Removal**

---

### *Objectives*

Perform Snow Removal in a manner that prevents pollution of surface and storm waters. There may be pollutants in snow removed from the roadway such as sand and chemical deicing and anti-icing compounds.

### *Plowing*

Plow or remove snow in such a way that melt water is treated before it is discharged to waters of the U.S.

- Melt water from plowed snow will be treated by grass in the spring if it is left in a vegetated area. If the vegetated area is a ditch, refrain from plowing snow into the final 50 feet of the ditch up-gradient of a stream outfall in order to prevent melt water from entering the stream directly before running through ditch vegetation
- Snow removed with the use of graders, blowers, and loaders can be hauled to a snow storage site (see below).
- Prevent snow plowed from bridges or above culverts conveying waters of the U.S. by pushing snow on bridges to the end of the bridge, not over the side of the bridge. At the ends of bridges, either plow the snow onto the shoulders or medians or haul it to a snow storage site. Do not push or place snow at the ends of culverts to avoid blocking them for spring thaw.
- Snow plowed on roads, runways, or taxiways with piped storm drain systems that discharge to waters of the U.S. without treatment should be hauled to a properly sited, designed, and operated snow storage site, when possible.

### *Sanding, Chemical Deicing, and Chemical Anti-icing*

During sanding, chemical deicing, and chemical anti-icing, avoid spraying materials from the truck into waters of the U.S. Near waters of the U.S., slow down and turn down the distribution until the truck is at least 50 feet beyond the water.

Store salt in a covered facility. If a sand-salt stockpile is stored outdoors, then establish a berm around it to divert drainage and cover it with plastic.

### *Snow Storage Sites*

To protect water quality, snow storage sites should be located in areas where the melt water will infiltrate, and where surface run-off to waters of the U.S. is minimized. Treatment for surface run-off should be provided through one or more of the following: vegetative filtration; slow overland flow; pond(s) for infiltration; settling; dilution; or detention. Place snow in the snow storage site in a manner that maximizes melt water flow through the treatment system.