HIGH PURITY WHITE SALT IS NOT ALWAYS VISIBLE TO THE HUMAN EYE

DRIVE CAREFULLY EVEN TREATED ROADS CAN BE Icy

To view this map in greater detail on the internet follow the links for “winter salting of roads” under W on the A-Z section of the County Council’s Web Site - www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

RICHARD WILLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNITIES
**Why Roads …. MAY STILL BE ICY**

- Despite the high level of service provided, no guarantee can be given that roads will always be completely clear of ice or snow.
- On average, forecasts are 87% accurate and in most winters this means that there is a 3% chance a forecast will not be correct, but can actually occur.
- A little time for the salt to become effective after roads are salted.
- Rain can wash salt off roads leaving them prone to snowing.
- In severe cold weather below -10°C even salt will not prevent roads from icing up.
- If a road is free from ice and snow it normally warms after the sun has stopped to avoid salt being washed away.
- Temperature may fall to as much as 5°C per hour and the wet roads may well freeze before the gritter has been able to salt them.

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- “Dawn Frost” - This occurs on dry roads and involves the development of early morning dew which falls on cold road surface and freezes on impact. It is impossible to forecast with any accuracy where and when it will occur.
- Rush hour snowfall - when rain turns to snow it causes problems with the rush hour. Early snowing cannot take place as it would be washed away or grit works out to make this less likely to cause congestion.
- Treated roads can still have icy patches and drivers should remain vigilant and aware of the need to slow carefully at all times when road fronts follow rain.

**Before driving in …. WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS**

**Check you:-**
- are travelling with care on both treated and untreated roads and reduce speed accordingly.
- take particular care when leaving or joining untreated roads at junctions.
- are using dipped headlights in poor visibility and snow.
- are driving in the highest gear possible and avoid hard braking and acceleration;
- are maintaining a safe stopping distance behind other vehicles bearing in mind the prevailing conditions.
- are keeping a careful watch on other road users and especially cyclists and children.
- are not obstructing winter maintenance vehicles as they travel the roads.

**If you get into trouble …**
- stay with your vehicle which may provide you with some protection;
- if you are forced to abandoned your vehicle give the emergency services the details of the police at the scene.

**Check:-**
- local and national radio for travel information and weather forecasts allowing extra time for your journey if necessary.
- this map of driving routes to avoid travelling on untreated roads.
- all lights are clean and working properly.
- ALL WINDSCREEN and mirrors are clear from frost and snow, and are clean.
- In extreme conditions ask yourself:
- is it your journey essential?
- have you checked the weather forecast and road conditions and carefully planned your journey?
- have you a full fuel tank?
- does everybody know where you are going and when you hope to arrive?
- would taking snow driving, hot drinks, food, wellingtons, a torch and show be a wise precaution?

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- Precautionary salting is carried out on B7938 (174 miles) of the County’s B7938 (5567 miles) high order network by Lincolnshire County Council and the Highways Agency.
- The Highways Agency carries out precautionary salting on all 1245 miles of trunk roads.
- Lincolnshire County Council preconsents a priority network of 40 routes which cover all the main traffic routes (The Strategic Network) and provides a treated link from each Main Village to the Strategic Network. Generally no other roads will be dealt with except where they are impossible due to severe snow conditions or during prolonged spells of severe weather.
- Lincolnshire County Council was a trial of 40 dedicated vehicles to spread salt at a rate of between 10-20 grammes per metre when road fronts are forecast.
- From the 1st October until 28th April highway engines monitor 24 hours a day ten mobile weather stations when road fronts are forecast.
- The information from these stations is used to compile a weekly report, which prepares daily weather forecasts, which enable highway engineers to predict when actions are needed to keep the roads safe.

**The Law on Cleaning Snow and Ice from Public Places**

There is no law stopping you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your property, but it is important to ask your property owner first.

If an accident did happen, it’s highly unlikely that you would be seen as being so long as you:
- are careful;
- use common sense to make sure that you don’t make the pavement or pathway clearly more dangerous than before;
- People using areas affected by snow / ice also have responsibility to be careful themselves.

**TIPS AND ADVICE ON CLEANSING SNOW AND ICE**

- dress early - it’s much easier to deal fresh, loose snow compared to compacted snow that has been trodden on;
- don’t use hot water - it will melt the snow but may replace it with salt ice, increasing the risk of injury;
- be a good neighbour - some people may be unable to deal snow or ice on paths from their property;
- if shovelling snow, think where you are going to put it so that it doesn’t block people’s paths or drainage channels;
- make a pathway down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on;
- make sure you have cleared will help stop ice forming on roads or driveways when salt work, and avoid spreading on plants or grass as it may be damaged by salt;
- be particularly careful and attention to steps and steep gradients;
- use the sun to your advantage - removing the last layer of snow will allow the sun to melt any ice beneath; however, you will need to cover any ice with salt all stop it refreezing overnight;
- if there’s no salt available, sand or ash are good alternatives.

**Lincolnshire Gritting Routes 2011/12**

- including advice on winter driving.

**Lincolnshire County Council**

**Communities**

- 4th Floor, City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln LN1 1DN
- E-mail: highways@lincolnshire.gov.uk
- If you would like to request a copy of this leaflet in an alternative format or different language please contact 01522 782060

**Lincolnshire County Council**

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For actual weather station readings from around the UK please go to: http://www.wrightstyc.com/