

## 5/ KNOW DIFFERENT TYPES OF SNOW

In spots where unusual drifting is expected, place one or more rows of fence, with the second line parallel to and about 50 feet from the first.

### **What about "self-help" barrels?**

Many public works agencies place "self-help" salt barrels at critical points where motorists are likely to have tough going during winter.

### **Eliminate runoff from stored salt.**

Improper stockpiling of salt is responsible for about 80 percent of environmental problems sometimes associated with salt use. Rain and melting snow can carry salt from uncovered piles into the ground and nearby bodies of water and possibly cause chloride build-up.

Salt piles **must** be covered. Salt users usually prefer permanent structures on asphalt pads with proper drainage. Temporary waterproof coverings can be effective if tended carefully. Covering salt also helps avoid loss of material through leaching and caking. Also, salt without cakes and lumps spreads with no difficulty.

Snow occurs when water vapor in an air mass is cooled below freezing. Density of snow varies greatly. Some storms produce "wet" snow like wet sand, others "dry" snow like sawdust. Wet or heavy snow can often be plowed away. Time is of the essence. Use of reliable weather

forecasting services allows for crew readiness in advance of storms. Salt should be applied as soon as snow or ice begins to accumulate.

Winter storms produce a number of hazardous conditions other than snow. Even without rain, ice may occur when

## STORMFIGHTING GUIDELINES

The following chart is a guideline to combat various types of storms. Local conditions and policies will be the final determining factor.

### Condition 1

#### Temperature

Near 30

#### Precipitation

Snow, sleet or freezing rain

#### Road Surface

Wet

If snow or sleet, apply salt at 500 lbs. per two-lane mile. If snow or sleet continues and accumulates, plow and salt simultaneously. If freezing rain, apply salt at 200 lbs. per two-lane mile. If rain continues to freeze, re-apply salt at 200 lbs. per two-lane mile. Consider anti-icing procedures.

### Condition 2

#### Temperature

Below 30 or falling

#### Precipitation

Snow, sleet or freezing rain

#### Road Surface

Wet or Sticky

Apply salt at 300-800 lbs. per two-lane mile, depending on accumulation rate. As snowfall continues and accumulates, plow and repeat salt application. If freezing rain, apply salt at 200-400 lbs. per two-lane mile. Consider anti-icing and de-icing procedures as warranted.

### Condition 3

#### Temperature

Below 20 and falling

#### Precipitation

Dry Snow

#### Road Surface

Dry

Plow as soon as possible. Do not apply salt. Continue to plow and patrol to check for wet, packed or icy spots; treat them with heavy salt applications.

### Condition 4

#### Temperature

Below 20

#### Precipitation

Snow, sleet or freezing rain

#### Road Surface

Wet

Apply salt at 600-800 lbs. per two-lane mile, as required. If snow or sleet continues and accumulates, plow and salt simultaneously. If temperature starts to rise, apply salt at 500-600 lbs. per two-lane mile, wait for salt to react before plowing. Continue until safe pavement is obtained.

### Condition 5

#### Temperature

Below 10

#### Precipitation

Snow or freezing rain

#### Road Surface

Accumulation of packed snow or ice

Apply salt at rate of 800 lbs. per two-lane mile or salt-treated abrasives at rate of 1500 to 2000 lbs. per two-lane mile. When snow or ice becomes mealy or slushy, plow. Repeat application and plowing as necessary.

Note: The light, 200-lb. application called for in Condition 1 and 2 must be repeated often for the duration of the condition.

