

MPPA

Messer Ponderings

***Wishing All a Happy,
Healthy, Holiday Season!***



♡ Season's greetings ♡



Watershed Update

We have some unused funds in the grant, and were able to have them appropriated towards the flow issues and Clark Creek data programs. We'll be starting those projects in the spring.



***Don't Be So Salty!
Help Keep Messer Pond Healthy!***



We want to share some important information about Messer Pond's health and how we can each play a role in preserving it.

Did you know that our pond has higher-than-average chloride levels? This is primarily due to the use of salt on driveways, walkways, and roads (especially I-89) during the winter. While chloride keeps surfaces safe in snowy and icy conditions, it can be harmful to aquatic life when it makes its way into our pond. So, we're here with a few friendly reminders and tips to help reduce chloride levels and protect our beautiful pond.

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Messer Pond Protective Association
www.messerpond.org
Contact: President@MesserPond.org



Don't Be So Salty! ~ Help Keep Messer Pond Healthy!

How You Can Help:

1. If you apply salt to your property.

Consider alternative traction aids as partial or complete replacements for rock salt. Sand, or even cat litter, can provide traction. Many alternatives to rock salt still contain chloride or have other undesirable environmental impacts, So, if you are not able to use alternative traction aids and still need to apply an ice melting product, the best choice is simply to use salt very sparingly.

2. Use Less Salt if Applying by Hand

Remember, 1 cup of salt can treat a 20-foot driveway! Aim for spacing of 1-2 inches between granules. A little salt can go a long way.

3. Clean Up Extra Salt

Sweep up any excess salt and save it for future use, or dispose of it properly. Avoid tossing salt into the woods or on the roadside, as it will eventually find its way into the pond.

4. Learn More About Effective Salt Use

To understand better how much salt is enough and explore alternatives, check out resources from the [Izaak Walton Salt Watch](#) and [Minnesota Salt Information](#).

5. If You Hire a Snow Plow Service

Talk with your plow contractor about using less or no salt where possible. Be mindful of where the snow piles are pushed to limit the flow of salt runoff into the pond. Encourage your contractor to get certified in the NH Green SnowPro program. This program trains contractors in salt reduction practices that improve water quality while keeping roads safe.

Have a suggestion on reducing salt use? Please share it with us. Send your ideas to Ethan Simon (ethanssimon@gmail.com), and we'll feature member suggestions in an upcoming email.

I-89 also contributes salt to the pond. Members of the MPPA are having discussions with NH DOT about ideas to reduce salt run-off from I-89. It's a challenge to balance road safety with reduced salt use, but we are exploring options.

Let's continue to work together to protect the health of Messer Pond – for ourselves, our wildlife, and future generations.

Thank you for your efforts in keeping Messer Pond pristine!

