



## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Department of Highway & Facility Maintenance

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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## Frederick County Highway Operations to Apply Salt Brine in Preparation for Wintry Mix on Saturday

FREDERICK, MD – The [National Weather Service](#) is predicting a 90 percent chance of precipitation on Saturday, including snow before noon, then freezing rain and sleet. In preparation for this wintry mix, the Frederick County Division of Public Works, Office of Highway Operations, announced that crews will apply salt brine on county roads starting today.

The county started the season with 67,000 gallons of salt brine stored with 14 vehicles equipped to spray liquid salt brine on the roads prior to a projected forecast. The salt brine is a water solution of 23% salt that is produced in-house at a substantial cost savings. If the projected forecast outlines specific conditions, brine is applied before the storm, helping to reduce how quickly the precipitation sticks to the road. It takes four times less salt to prevent ice/snow from bonding to the road surface, than to break the bond after it has formed.

Highway officials caution that on average, more than 200,000 crashes occur statewide every year due to unsafe driving in snow, ice and other wet conditions, such as driving too fast, following too closely, or failing to maintain a lane and overcorrecting. In winter weather, motorists are reminded to drive slowly for conditions and leave space between their vehicle and others. Wearing a seat belt and focusing on the road are a few other important driving tips for any type of weather.

For more information, visit the Highway Operations webpage to get updated information on road closures ([www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/roadsclosed](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/roadsclosed)) and other pertinent information.

For more information about winter preparation, contact [Highway Operations](#) at 301-600-1564 or via e-mail at [OHighOpsEmail@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:OHighOpsEmail@FrederickCountyMD.gov), or visit [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/snow](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/snow).

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