PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SALT/DE-ICERS AND YOUR CONCRETE

Salt and De-Icers can damage your concrete, especially new concrete. When it rains or snows, the water will penetrate the concrete until it freezes. As salt or other de-icers are spread on top of concrete, the freeze point momentarily changes causing additional water to penetrate the concrete until the surface water freezes again, trapping the added water inside the concrete. As the water trapped inside the concrete refreezes, it expands placing added pressure inside of the concrete. The added pressure can cause the top of the concrete to pop or crumble (called concrete spalling). In addition to the surface damage, micro-cracking is taking place inside the concrete which will shorten the lifespan. A better alternative to salt or de-icers is sand, kitty litter or shoveling the snow close to the concrete surface so it will melt in the sun.