

EXPLANATION: This Ordinance establishes regulations on the storage of salt on private property throughout the Borough in compliance with NJDEP requirements.

**BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS  
ORDINANCE NO. 2023-26**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS ON THE  
STORAGE OF SALT ON PRIVATE PROPERTY  
THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Far Hills, in the County of Somerset and State of New Jersey as follows:

**Section 1.** The following requirements and regulations shall be established in the Borough of Far Hills:

**SALT STORAGE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

**Article I Purpose.**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to prevent stored salt and other solid de-icing materials from being exposed to stormwater. This Ordinance establishes requirements for the storage of salt and other solid de-icing materials on properties not owned or operated by the municipality (privately-owned), including residences, in the Borough of Far Hills to protect the environment, public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

**Section II Definitions.**

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this Ordinance clearly demonstrates a different meaning. When consistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words used in the singular number include the plural number. The word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- A. “De-icing materials” means any granular or solid material such as melting salt or any other granular solid that assists in the melting of snow.
- B. “Impervious surface” means a surface that has been covered with a layer of material so that it is highly resistant to infiltration by water.
- C. “Storm drain inlet” means the point of entry into the storm sewer system.

D. "Permanent structure" means a permanent building or permanent structure that is anchored to a permanent foundation with an impermeable floor, and that is completely roofed and walled (new structures require a door or other means of sealing the access way from wind driven rainfall).

A fabric frame structure is a permanent structure if it meets the following specifications:

1. Concrete blocks, jersey barriers or other similar material shall be placed around the interior of the structure to protect the side walls during loading and unloading of de-icing materials;
2. The design shall prevent stormwater run-on and run through, and the fabric cannot leak;
3. The structure shall be erected on an impermeable slab;
4. The structure cannot be open sided; and
5. The structure shall have a roll up door or other means of sealing the access way from wind driven rainfall.

E. "Person" means any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, or political subdivision of this State subject to municipal jurisdiction.

F. "Resident" means a person who resides on a residential property where de-icing material is stored.

### **Article III Deicing Material Storage Requirements.**

A. Temporary outdoor storage of de-icing materials in accordance with the requirements below is allowed between October 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>:

1. Loose materials shall be placed on a flat, impervious surface in a manner that prevents stormwater run-through;
2. Loose materials shall be placed at least 50 feet from surface water bodies, storm drain inlets, ditches and/or other stormwater conveyance channels;
3. Loose materials shall be maintained in a cone-shaped storage pile. If loading or unloading activities alter the cone-shape during daily activities, tracked materials shall be swept back into the storage pile, and the storage pile shall be reshaped into a cone after use;
4. Loose materials shall be covered as follows:
  - a. The cover shall be waterproof, impermeable, and flexible;

- b. The cover shall extend to the base of the pile(s);
  - c. The cover shall be free from holes or tears;
  - d. The cover shall be secured and weighed down around the perimeter to prevent removal by wind; and
  - e. Weight shall be placed on the cover(s) in such a way that minimizes the potential of exposure as materials shift and runoff flows down to the base of the pile.
    - (1) Sandbags lashed together with rope or cable and placed uniformly over the flexible cover, or poly-cord nets provide a suitable method. Items that can potentially hold water (e.g., old tires) shall not be used;
5. Containers must be sealed when not in use; and
6. The site shall be free of all de-icing materials between April 16<sup>th</sup> and October 14<sup>th</sup>.
- B. De-icing materials should be stored in a permanent structure if a suitable storage structure is available. For storage of loose de-icing materials in a permanent structure, such storage may be permanent, and thus not restricted to October 15 -April 15.
- C. In the event that de-icing materials are stored in a temporary or permanent structure, such structures shall comply with all other Borough Ordinances, including, without limitation, applicable building and zoning regulations.
- D. The property owner, or owner of the de-icing materials if different, shall designate a person(s) responsible for operations at the site where these materials are stored outdoors, and who shall document that weekly inspections are conducted to ensure that the conditions of this ordinance are met. Inspection records shall be kept on site and made available to the municipality upon request.
- 1. Residents who operate businesses from their homes that utilize de-icing materials are required to perform weekly inspections.

#### **Article IV Exemptions.**

Residents may store de-icing materials outside in a solid-walled, closed container that prevents precipitation from entering and exiting the container, and which prevents the de-icing materials from leaking or spilling out. Under these circumstances, weekly inspections are not necessary, but repair or replacement of damaged or inadequate containers shall occur within 2 weeks.

If containerized (in bags or buckets) de-icing materials are stored within a permanent structure, they are not subject to the storage and inspection requirements in Article III above. Piles of de-icing materials are not exempt, even if stored in a permanent structure.

This ordinance does not apply to facilities where the stormwater discharges from de-icing material storage activities are regulated under another NJPDES permit.

#### **Article V Enforcement.**

This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Police Department, Zoning Officer, and/or Construction Code Enforcement Official or designated representative of the Borough of Far Hills.

#### **Article VI Violations and Penalties.**

Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall have seventy-two (72) hours to complete the ordered corrective action. Failure to complete the corrective action and/or repeat violations shall be subject to the general penalty provisions of the Borough of Far Hills.

**Section 2.** If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance and they shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 3.** In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any prior ordinance of the Borough of Far Hills, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern, and the inconsistencies of the prior ordinance are hereby repealed. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Ordinances of the Borough of Far Hills are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

**Section 4.** Within five (5) days after its adoption by the Council, this Ordinance shall be presented to the Mayor for his approval and signature, which approval shall be granted or denied within ten (10) days of receipt of same, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:60-5(d). If the Mayor fails to return this Ordinance with either his approval or objection to same within ten (10) days after it has been presented to him, then this Ordinance shall be deemed approved.


**Section 5.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon (1) adoption; (2) approval by the Mayor pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:60-5(d); and (3) publication in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey.

Introduced: November 13, 2023  
Published: November 16, 2023  
Adopted: November 27, 2023  
Published: November 30, 2023

ATTEST:

  
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Dorothy S. Hicks  
Borough Clerk

BOROUGH OF FAR HILLS

By:   
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Kevin P. Welsh  
Mayor