THE LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS PERSPECTIVE

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Public Works Reality

- LOS (Level of Service) - Public expects clear and safe roads—many expect black pavement right after the last snowflake.
- Old days “Snow tires” were common – Today sports tires used during winter.
- Legal & Political implications of not getting the roads cleared in a timely or black pavement fashion.
- Police, Fire & EMS need to respond to emergencies during storm events.
- Commerce expects roads to be open for customers.
- Transportation Industry expects to be able to make deliveries.
- Schools expect things to be cleared/safe for schools to be open.
- The unpredictability of the weather challenges the “Game Plan” for winter maintenance each storm.
What do we do?

• We Use a variety of proven traditional chemical and mechanical methods to achieve “Public Works Reality”
• Use treated and untreated “salts” although some still use sand combo
• Use “new” formulas of food by-products like beet juice and other products
• We use various technologies to deliver products at different and sometimes unknown quantities
• Varying “micro” climates within towns and within the state dictates the need for different winter maintenance strategies
• Some Towns may not really know (measure) the true amount of product used other than what they buy
Progress to date

• PWA Training-Calibration
• Green Snow Pro Initiative
• Local DPW’s continuing to experiment and update to what is working in the industry
“Our” Collective Reality

- We collectively (DEEP, DPH, DOT, Local Health Districts, Local DPWs, Local and State Political Leaders, THE PUBLIC) need to work together
- We need to build Trust and Collaboration
- We need to use the carrot not the stick to move towards best practices/solutions/technologies
- We need Funding to help implement positive changes
- We need to Continue Education and Training of Applicators
- We to Educate the Public and Political Leaders on Changes to Level of Service Expectations
- We need a short term plan and a long term plan on how to move into the “Future Reality”
Are we Ready to Make a Difference?

Suggestions:

• Support and get passed **Green Snow Pro Limited Liability Legislation**
• Set up **Certification Program** for private Sector (maybe through Consumer Protection?)
• **MAKE IT FREE to Private Sector Applicators** (maybe for first two years; then with a renewal fee thereafter— to get buy in AND begin to make a CHANGE in Application BEHAVIOR)
• Form a **Focus Group(Task Force) of Stakeholders** to meet/continue to develop more short and long term solutions
• State Support Grant programs (like previous ICE program) to help Municipalities purchase the equipment to better control/measure application of products
• Tax incentive program for **Private Applicators Equipment Purchases**?
Questions?