Winter road treatment tactics depend on **temperature, precipitation type** and **traffic volume**. Salt isn’t a silver bullet and may not be effective on every roadway.

### The Basics

- **Less effective** below 23-25 degrees
- **Most effective** when crushed/spread by traffic

### Salt Use and Road Types

- **Most effective with more traffic**
- **Mixed with anti-skid or only anti-skid used on lower-traffic roads**
- **When traffic is too low for salt to be effective, salt or salt/anti-skid mix is focused on hills, intersections, sharp curves or freezing-prone areas**

### Salt and Temperature

- **Pre-wetting salt with salt brine can jump start melting, but is still most effective when pavement is 25 degrees or higher**
- **On high-traffic roads, salt/anti-skid mix can be used when the road temperature is below 15 degrees**
- **On low-traffic roads when the road temperature is below 15 degrees, falling snow is generally dryer and blows over the roadway, so salt is generally not used**

More on winter operations and safety at PennDOT.gov/winter #PAWinter