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Salt Storage Ordinance (Ord. 26-39) City of Saint Paul

September 9, 2026



Salt Storage Ordinance

Background and Context

Phase I MS4 Permit/Clean Water Act

- **Clean Water Act:** Pursuant to the CWA, the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issues permits approximately every 10 years to MS4 communities
- **MS4 Permits:** Requirements of permits relate to conveyance systems, operations, education, housekeeping, etc.
- **Salt Storage Requirement:** Saint Paul's current MS4 permit includes a new requirement for controls through local ordinance on de-icing chemical (salt) storage





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Background and Context

Salt Storage Requirements

- **Chloride Pollution:** Road de-icing chemicals are primarily based on chloride salts; as a result, local surface waters are exposed to substantial chloride loading from meltwater runoff
- **Salt Storage Requirements:** De-icing chemical are stockpiled to ensure availability; the most recent Phase I MS4 permit requires codification of best practices for salt storage
- **Codification:** Based on MPCA guidance, City staff have developed draft language for codifying salt storage requirements/best practices



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Planning Commission Actions and Recommendation

- In March 2026, the Saint Paul Planning Commission (PC Resolution 26-11) initiated a zoning study to consider amendments to Ch. 63 of Saint Paul Legislative Code to satisfy the requirements of the City's MS4 permit regarding Salt Storage
- In May 2026, the Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommended (PC Resolution 26-13) that the City Council adopt the studied Ch. 63 language.





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