



## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

Christopher R. Conklin  
*Director*

March 8, 2024

Friends of Sligo Creek,

MCDOT extends our deepest apologies for the excessive use of salt in the Sligo Creek watershed during recent winter storms. We recognize the importance of minimizing our environmental impact in the communities we serve, and we share your concerns about the observed over-application of salt, as depicted in the provided photos.

Please know that we take this matter seriously and are fully committed to addressing the situation. We understand the environmental impact of excessive salt use and acknowledge our responsibility in mitigating any adverse effects. Upon investigation, it appears there may have been a mechanical failure in one of our salt trucks, leading to unintended salt over-application in the affected areas. We are thoroughly reviewing our equipment to identify and rectify any potential malfunctions, ensuring they meet our strict standards. Additionally, we will be implementing more rigorous monitoring and training protocols for our salt applicators to prevent such incidents in the future.

MCDOT appreciates your vigilance in bringing this matter to our attention and value your partnership in maintaining the well-being of our community. Thank you for your understanding, and please feel free to reach out if you have any further concerns or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Degan Bartels  
Public Relations & Outreach Manager

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### Division of Highway Services

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