



Friends of Sligo Creek
P. O. Box 11572
Takoma Park, MD 20913

January 27, 2025

To: Andrea Crooms, Director, Department of the Environment, Prince George's County
doecares@co.pg.md.us
Michael Johnson, Director, Department of Public Works and Transportation, Prince George's County
dpwt-od@co.pg.md.us
Bill Tyler, Director, PG Parks OfficeoftheDirector@pgparks.com

Dear Director Crooms, Director Johnson and Director Tyler:

I am writing to deliver a tough message on behalf of Friends of Sligo Creek (FOSC), a nonprofit community organization dedicated to protecting, improving and appreciating Sligo Creek, the surrounding park and watershed in Prince George's County and Montgomery County.

While your agencies are working tirelessly to provide safe conditions and transport for the residents of the County during snow storms, their salt management program is severely degrading our creek.

Following salt treatment in early January, toxic levels of chloride persisted in our creek for more than two weeks, and conductivity levels have been very elevated. We saw problems last year, but this year is far worse.

Attached is a letter with additional details that we are sending to MCDOT, DEP and Montgomery Parks in Montgomery County, WSSC, DPW in the City of Takoma Park, MDE and SHA. Not only is our salt challenge an intragovernmental matter, it is an intergovernmental matter involving many parties.

We strongly urge your agencies to work closely with the other entities listed above to address the salt challenge, and have offered pragmatic suggestions for improvements in our letter. It has become evident that Salt Management Plans for the State and our Counties are damaging the environment. More fundamental changes in approach need to be taken before the degradation of our fresh waterways is too great.

Sincerely,

Elaine Lamirande, President
Friends of Sligo Creek
president@fosc.org

cc:

Adriana Caldarelli, Deputy Director, Department of the Environment, Prince George's County
doecares@co.pg.md.us
Director, Office of Highway Maintenance, Prince George's County dpwt-od@co.pg.md.us
Steve Carter, Deputy Director, Parks and Facilities Management Division, PG Parks
Steve.Carter@pgparks.com