

If it ever gets below freezing... how will you melt the ice on your driveway?

The article below (from the January/February 2012 issue of "E" The Environmental Magazine) has some thoughts on how to melt the ice in an environmentally friendly way!

How Green is that Ice Melt?

Pet- and People-Friendly Alternatives to Road and Sidewalk Salt

January 1, 2012 | Lindsey Blomberg |

Nearly 20 million tons, or one million truckloads worth, of salt is deposited on America's roadways each winter. This road salt raises salinity and reduces oxygen levels in local water, and it may also contain toxic metals like mercury or arsenic. Road salt can also dehydrate nearby vegetation and endanger animals that accidentally ingest it or step on its jagged granules. For your own steps and sidewalks, choose a non-hazardous ice-melt instead.



1. **Perfectly Natural Solutions Eco Ice Melter** (about \$18/11lb.) is made with potassium, sodium and traction aid and is colored green lest you forget it's made of natural ingredients that won't harm wildlife, soil, children, pets or concrete. www.kmart.com
2. Packaged in a recyclable handled shaker, the plant-based and phosphate-free **Ice Melt** from **Earth Friendly Products** (\$12/6.5lb.) is a cruelty free solution to slippery pather that will stop ice from forming. www.ecos.com
3. Made from hydrothermal volcanic minerals, **Eco-Traction** (\$14.95/10lb.), available at Amazon, Home Depot and Whole Foods, delivers instant grip and traction. One cup of these salt-, chloride- chemical- and dye-free granules will cover an average 144 square foot parking space. www.ecotraction.com
4. **Happy Paws Liquid Ice Melt** (\$13.95/gallon), available from Amazon, is an animal-safe anti-icer and de-icer that is harmless if accidentally ingested by your pet. It's biodegradable, chloride- and salt-free and applications are long-lasting. www.greecemelt.com

Check out E Magazine at: <http://www.emagazine.com/>

**If you have any questions, or ideas you'd like to share,
please contact Julia Fisher at jjfish3@verizon.net.**