

# Salt

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Salt causes soils to become more acidic (have more acid in it), which does not allow the soil to transfer nutrients as well. This means that plants do not get the nutrients they need. Salty soils cause plants, including grass, to become nutrient deficient (meaning they don't have enough) because they don't pick up enough of the nutrients they need, such as nitrogen and phosphorous. This causes plants not to grow as well. Also, important nutrients are leaked out of the soil into the water under ground and this water carries the nutrients away from the area that needs them.

Why we're still using salt on the roads probably has to do with keeping ice off the roads so that we can continue to drive in winter conditions. Why don't we just slow down a little or not drive as much when road conditions are poor? Rather than use salt, we should go back to old fashioned dirt. For your house or apartment, you can also use bird seed on your steps and walkway, feeding the birds while keeping you and your visitors safe. The soil, plants, and birds will thank you!