

Stormwater Tip of the Month 2-2014

Last month's stormwater tip recommended that homeowners consider using cracked corn on icy walkways to prevent slipping instead of using kitty litter, sand, or gravel, which can wash into storm drains. Cracked corn had been suggested as a better alternative because birds and animals would eat it before it could wash into the storm sewers in the spring. However, we have been advised that cracked corn attracts mice, so we no longer recommend its use.

We have since learned of a salt-free ice-melting product called Safe Paw™ that works to quickly melt ice and that also contains a traction agent to help prevent slips and falls.

Because it does not contain salt, the product also is guaranteed safe for pets, children, and the environment. Safe Paw™ claims to have another advantage: it attracts solar heat to provide extra melting power during daylight hours. Safe Paw™ can be purchased at Shop Rite, Sam's Club, COSTCO, and some pet stores. For more information on this product, go to www.safepaw.com.