

Salt Bag Partnership Scheme for Winter 2022/23 has been launched!
Closing date is the 25th July 2022

To support local communities to help themselves during periods of heavy snow and build on their community resilience, Essex County Council (ECC) would like to make available to each participating **Town and Parish Council** a one tonne wrapped pallet made up of individual 25kg bags for use by the community on the local highway. ECC is offering this free of charge again this year.

To improve the scheme and reduce costs, we will continue using an Online application form to log all the details and are asking if you:

1. would like to participate and require salt, or
2. participate but have enough salt left due to the mild winter, or
3. Won't be taking part

If you haven't yet applied please check your emails or

Please click on the link below (or right hand click 'open hyperlink' or copy the address below into your search engine i.e. Google etc.) to open the form:

<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/essex-highways/b97b9589>

Delivery Information:

If you are signing up and need salt, the delivery of the salt is programmed to arrive in September to early October to allow you time to allocate to your Volunteers. Please note we will not be making ad-hoc or additional re-stock deliveries throughout winter.

The salt will be delivered by a large lorry (a bit bigger than a dustbin lorry) and the salt will be removed from the lorry via a tail lift and then moved on a trolley to its final destination. Please note that the trolley does not go over uneven or loose ground (grass, pebbles etc.) or steep inclines. The location you identify for delivery must be able to accommodate this.

About the Scheme:

If you are new to the scheme and would like to know how to set up the scheme for your area, the following points should be considered:

- Identify the priority areas for your local community (these must be on the public highway and not for any other area such as private driveways) such as footpaths outside local shops, doctors, access routes to main bus stops etc which are not *already* salted by ECC. The salting network is mapped on our Website here: <https://www.essexhighways.org/transport-and-roads/roads-and-pavements/winter-travel/salting-routes.aspx>
- Recruit volunteers in and around these areas – local businesses, nearby home owners, residents associations etc. Feedback indicates direct engagement is the most effective way to recruiting volunteers.

- Confirm that the volunteers are confident they are physically able to manually remove snow and then spread a thin layer of salt when required and provide them with Snow Clearance Guidance and Manual Handling information.
- Keep a record of these priority areas and the details of the volunteers who are nominated to clear snow/salt for each chosen location.
- Give each volunteer a bag/supply of salt to store in preparation for when it snows.

Free Support Pack:

A free Support Pack is available to help you organise your scheme. The online form contains this pack and it is also available on our Website here:

<https://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-Roads/Roads-and-Pavements/Winter-travel/Salt-Bag-Partnership.aspx>.

If it is your preference to produce your own you may, just simply run whatever version is decided upon through your insurers for Public and Employee Liability purposes. The pack contains:

- **A Volunteer Briefing Sheet – Snow Clearing Guidance** for your volunteers on how to clear snow and some things they should consider for their own safety and security.
- **A Winter Plan** – To set out details of your scheme, put on noticeboards or parish website (if you have one) and **A Risk Assessment form** - for the volunteer to complete with the Town or Parish Council.
- **Manual Handling information**

The Salt Bag Partnership Scheme

Winter.Service@essexhighways.org

NB: Please do not email any previous years forms to the Winterservice Inbox as they are now out of date and cannot be logged – Thank you for your cooperation.