



## Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Approved Specification - Snow and Ice Control

### **HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT:**

This document sets minimum environmentally preferable standards for snow and ice control products procured by the State of Maryland with which Contractors are encouraged to comply.

This document also includes additional environmentally desirable attributes which Contractors are encouraged to follow in their product offerings, without sacrificing reliability and to the maximum extent practicable whenever such products are cost competitive and meet form, function and utility requirements.

### **PRODUCTS COVERED UNDER THIS SPECIFICATION:**

**Abrasives**

**Anti-Caking Additives**

**Bagged Snow and Ice Control Products** (*50 lbs or under*)

**Bulk Snow and Ice Control Products** (*over 50 lbs*)

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## Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Approved Specification - Snow and Ice Control

### 1. ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING: LEGISLATION, STATUTES, AND REGULATIONS

#### *For Procurement Officers and Agencies*

##### **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing** (COMAR: [21.11.07.09](#))

“All procurement agencies shall purchase environmentally preferable products and services unless purchasing environmentally preferable products and services would limit or supersede any requirements under any provision of law or result in the purchase of products and services that:

- (1) Do not perform adequately for the intended use;
- (2) Exclude adequate competition; or
- (3) Are not available at a reasonable price in a reasonable period of time.”

##### **Mercury and Products that Contain Mercury** (COMAR: [21.11.07.07](#))

“All procurement agencies shall give a preference under this regulation to procuring products and equipment that are mercury-free. If mercury-free products and equipment that meet the agency's product performance requirements are not commercially available, the procurement agency shall give preference under this regulation to products containing the least amount of mercury necessary to meet performance requirements.”

#### *For Contractors, Bidders, and Offerors*

##### **Verifying Environmental Claims** (State Finance and Procurement Article [§14-410\(g\)](#))

“A bidder or offeror for a procurement contract shall certify in writing that any claims of environmental attributes made relating to a product or service are consistent with the Federal Trade Commission’s Guidelines for the Use of Environmental Marketing Terms.”

### 2. MINIMUM ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE STANDARDS

Snow and ice control products are encouraged to meet the following standards for their size and use category; if such products meet these standards, they are considered to be an environmentally preferable product in the State of Maryland.

#### A. Bagged Snow and Ice Control Products (50 lbs. or under)

- For bagged snow and ice control products, the Contractor is encouraged to offer products that can be found on either:
  - [EPA Safer Choice](#)
  - OR
  - [Clear Roads Qualified Product List \(OPL\)](#)

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### B. Bulk Snow and Ice Control Products (over 50 lbs.)

- For bulk snow and ice control products, the Contractor is encouraged to offer products that meet the standards listed below:
  - **The following products must have, at a minimum, an added corrosion inhibitor:**
    - Sodium Chloride or Sodium Chloride Blends (*Solid and Liquid*)
    - Calcium Chloride or Calcium Chloride Blends (*Solid and Liquid*)
    - Magnesium Chloride or Magnesium Chloride Blends (*Solid*)
  - **Liquid Magnesium Chloride:**
    - Must have a corrosion inhibitor
    - Must have a freezing point of at least -35°F
  - **Liquid Magnesium Chloride Blends:**
    - Must have a corrosion inhibitor
    - Must have a freezing point of at least -26°F

## 3. ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTALLY DESIRABLE ATTRIBUTES

### A. Anti-Caking Additives for Solid and Ice Control Products

- Upon request by the state agency, anti-caking agents must be free from ferrocyanide (also known as hexacyanoferrate or YPS) and/or be biodegradable.

### B. Abrasives

- Vendors are encouraged to offer abrasives that meet the following material recommendations, unless otherwise specified by the requesting organization or agency.
  - Abrasives shall be composed of either natural sand, manufactured sand, iron ore tailings, slag or lightweight aggregate consisting of these materials.
  - All abrasives shall consist of hard, durable particles that are free from injurious amounts of clay, loam or other undesirable material or hazardous substances.
  - Abrasives shall be composed of granular material that is relatively free of organic impurities.

### C. Shipping/Transport Recommendations

- To promote fuel efficiency and reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution, the Contractor is encouraged to use a SmartWay Transport/Carrier Partner for the shipment or transport of products.

A list of SmartWay Transport partners can be found here:

<https://www.epa.gov/smartway/smartway-partner-list>.

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### 4. ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING LANGUAGE

**Instruction to Procurement Officers: Please include the following language in your solicitation if it does not already exist.**

#### A. On Environmentally Preferable Purchasing:

**The State of Maryland is committed to purchasing environmentally preferable products and services (EPPs).** Maryland’s State Finance & Procurement Article §14-410 defines environmentally preferable purchasing as “the procurement or acquisition of goods and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing goods or services that serve the same purpose.”

Accordingly, Bidders/Offerors are strongly encouraged to offer EPPs to fulfill this contract, to the greatest extent practicable.

#### B. On Maryland’s Green Purchasing Reporting Requirements:

**The State of Maryland requires, at a minimum, from the Contractor annual sales data over the life of this contract; the State also reserves the right to request quarterly sales data over the life of this contract.**

The report shall include at a minimum details about the third-party sustainability certifications and other environmental attributes of products and services sold on this price agreement per the contract specifications.

To facilitate consistent reporting on this contract, the Contractor will be provided with a VENDOR GREEN SALES REPORT template from the Green Purchasing Committee (GPC), the Office of State Procurement (OSP) or the Department of General Services (DGS).

#### C. On Environmental Claims

**All environmental benefit claims made by the Contractor concerning products or services offered on this contract must be consistent with the [Federal Trade Commission’s Guidelines for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims](#).**

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### Appendix – Definitions

**Abrasives:** Temporarily improves surface friction when spread on roads.

**Anti-Caking Additive:** Placed in granulated products to prevent lumping or “caking” of product in order to facilitate handling, and application.

**Biodegradable:** Ability of a substance to decompose in the natural environment into harmless materials.

**Clear Roads:** National research consortium with membership from over 30 U.S. states, including Maryland; focused on testing and evaluating winter maintenance materials, equipment, and processes.

**Environmentally preferable:** Products and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared to other products and services that serve the same purpose.

**Hazardous substance:** 1) Material posing a threat to human health and/or the environment, that can be toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive, or chemically reactive; 2) substance that must be reported to the EPA if released into the environment.

**Iron Ore Tailings:** Waste by-product material derived from the separation of commercially valuable and invaluable materials (i.e. beneficiation process) in iron ore.

**Lightweight Aggregate:** Granular composite material composed of various materials; may be used as an abrasive.

**Loam:** A soil composite typically containing sand, silt, and clay.

**Safer Choice:** A certification program developed and maintained by the US Environmental Protection Agency’s Design for Environment (DfE) Program. It verifies that consumer and institutional products meet its criteria for safer chemicals.

**Slag:** Waste or by-product material typically metal or silica.

**SmartWay:** Program established by the U.S. EPA to help improve fuel efficiencies and sustainability in freight transportation.