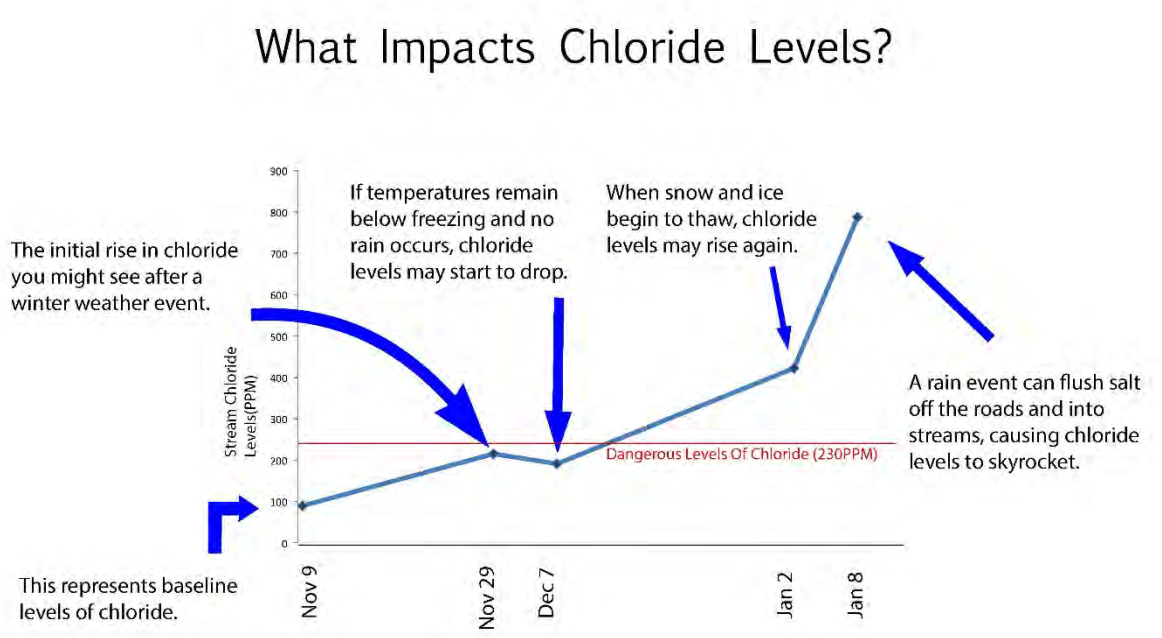
## Road Salt and Brodhead Streams

**As we gather data on levels of chlorides in local streams, here are some resources to help you understand chlorides and how they impact fish, macro-invertebrates and other life in streams.**




# Izaak Walton League of America - Winter Salt Watch

https://www.iwla.org/conservation/water/winter-salt-watch

This webpage has a number of informative articles, plus a way to sign up for their Winter Salt Watch program and enter your results on-line.

# Chlorides in Fresh Water

http://cels.uri.edu/docslink/ww/water-quality-factsheets/Chlorides.pdf

Chlorides are present in both fresh and salt water, and are essential elements of life. Salts such as table salt are composed of ions that are bonded together. When table salt is mixed with water, its sodium and chloride ions separate as they dissolve. Chloride ions in the environment can come from sodium chloride or from other chloride salts such as potassium chloride, calcium chloride and magnesium chloride. The concentration of chlorides has sharply increased in many bodies of water since the widespread adoption of road salt as a deicer in the 1970s, and the ecological implications of this change have yet to be fully determined. Scientists who study watersheds use elevated chloride levels as one indicator of pollution in a body of water.

# Monitoring and Tracking Chloride Trends

An in-stream study examines chloride levels' relation to weather and deicing activities.

https://foresternetwork.com/stormwater-magazine/sw-water/sw-stormwater/monitoring-and-tracking-chloride-trends/

This article explores the results of an in-stream chloride study conducted in Vermont over the course of 22 months from early 2014 to late 2015. It discusses the general chloride trends observed during this time and how they relate to weather events and deicing activities. It also discusses how municipalities with chloride regulations can develop their own simple monitoring programs for compliance. Finally, the current state of best management practices is explored in an effort to provide a means by which communities can begin to reduce chloride contributions to local water resources.