Town of Chelsea
Sand/Salt Senior Program and Public Sand/Salt Shed Combined Use Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide Chelsea residents with reasonable access to a limited amount of mixed sand and salt for residential safety during slippery winter conditions. The Town recognizes that access to a small quantity of sand/salt can help improve safety during icy conditions. This policy combines the Town's Public Salt/Sand Shed program with its delivery program for eligible senior and shut-in residents.

Scope

This policy applies only to residents of the Town of Chelsea. Use of the public sand/salt supply and participation in the delivery program are subject to the limitations and requirements stated below.

Authority

The Chelsea Selectboard, as the duly elected and sworn municipal officers, implements this policy as a public safety expenditure pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. § 5722(1), general operation of municipal government.

A. Public Sand/Salt Shed - Policy and Limitations

1. A separate storage area shall be maintained for the public supply of sand mixed with salt.
2. Chelsea residents may obtain a maximum of (2) five-gallon containers of sand/salt mixture per household. Sand/salt will be available only on designated days and during scheduled hours when volunteers are present to open the sand shed for residential use.
3. Residents using the public sand/salt shed must provide their own containers and are responsible for loading and transporting the material.
4. The plowing contractor and Town Manager shall monitor the salt/sand supply and report abuse of the program. Reported abuse may be referred to the Selectboard and may include the date and time, vehicle description, and a brief description of the alleged abuse.
5. The site may be monitored and posted. Residents who violate the limitations of this policy or trespass on restricted Town property may be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency for possible enforcement action.
6. Neither the Town of Chelsea nor the plowing contractor guarantee that sand/salt will always be available. The public stockpile shall be enclosed to help prevent precipitation runoff from polluting groundwater.
7. Use of the public sand/salt is at the user's own risk. Neither the Town nor the plowing contractor is responsible for damage or injuries resulting from loading, transporting, or using the material.
8. Any private or restricted sand/salt storage area is off limits to the public. Public loading is permitted only when access to the designated public area is open.

B. Senior Sand/Salt Delivery Program - Policy and Limitations

9. Eligible senior and shut-in Chelsea residents may receive one five-gallon container (at a time) of sand/salt, delivered to their residence, without charge, for use on stairs and walkways (no driveways) mid-October through mid-March.
10. An additional delivery of one five-gallon container may be requested when the resident is out of, or running low on, material.
11. For the delivery program, the Town will provide both the container and the sand/salt. Empty Town-provided containers should be returned so they may be reused.
12. The Town Manager shall monitor use of the delivery program. Excessive use or misuse may result in removal from the program.
13. The Town does not guarantee that an eligible resident will always have sand/salt available. Deliveries will be made on a first-come, first-served basis and as timely as reasonably possible.
14. Use of delivered sand/salt is at the user's own risk. Neither the Town nor the plowing contractor shall be held liable for the use or misuse of the material.

Definitions

Resident - A person domiciled in the Town of Chelsea. Proof of residency may be required by Town officials and may include a vehicle registration, voter registration record, driver's license, hunting license, deed, lease or rental agreement, or utility bill identifying the physical address.

Senior Resident - A person domiciled in the Town of Chelsea who is 60 years of age or older. Proof of residency may be required.

Shut-In - A person domiciled in the Town of Chelsea who is confined indoors, especially because of a physical or mental disability. Proof of residency may be required.

Container - A bucket or other suitable container not exceeding five gallons in size.

Loading - The act of transferring material from the available public pile into a container.

Abuse - Excessive use or use beyond the limits established by this policy, giving away material in violation of the program limits, or transporting Town-provided material outside Chelsea.

Adoption / Review

This combined policy supersedes and consolidates the Town of Chelsea Sand for Senior Program Policy adopted October 14, 2020 and the Public Salt/Sand Shed Use Policy adopted November 10, 2021. This policy shall be reviewed annually.

Adopted by the Chelsea Selectboard on: 10/14/2026

Sheri Truman, Chair | Jake Soucy, Vice-Chair | Mike Pushard, Member