

# SaMS 2<sup>nd</sup> Salt Tracking/BMP Reporting Workgroup Discussion Questions

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**Draft Salt Use/BMP Tracking Form:** This is a starting point for developing an example form(s) for voluntary tracking and reporting. **This draft form was designed to be comprehensive to provide all possibilities for tracking and reporting, and workgroup discussions will help to prioritize elements the group supports for initial “Coarse” reporting, and those that may be better suited for more “Refined” reporting over a longer time horizon.**

## **BMP Tracking Tab:**

1. **Plowing/Calibrating/Measuring/Adjusting Application:** share feedback on these entries
2. **Levels of Service/Training/Pre- and Post-Storm Meetings:** share feedback on these entries
3. **Anti-Icing/Liquids Use:** share feedback on these entries
4. **Forecasting & Sensing/Enhanced Equipment**
  - a. What sources are used (NWS/Other) for storm planning/documentation?
  - b. Are automated sensors and enhanced equipment questions appropriate (vs. too general?)
5. **Salt Storage:** would more general questions (i.e., “describe salt storage facilities”) be more appropriate/acceptable?
6. **BMP Effectiveness:** we haven’t included questions on effectiveness of BMPs, as simple questions for this seem unrealistic. Share thoughts on whether and how we might address BMP effectiveness or other BMP evaluations.

## **Product Use Tab:**

7. **Organization/Location details:** share feedback on format/content these fields
8. **Storm Characterization:** share feedback on format/content these fields
9. **Temperatures:** how best to address temperature range in large geographic operations/jurisdictions?
10. **Products Listed:** any suggested changes to product listing or units?
11. **Other Suggestions?**

## **General Comments:**

12. **Seasonal and Totals:** we discussed starting with “coarse” reporting and moving over time to more detailed tracking.
  - a. Share feedback on ways a less detailed form could provide useful management information.
  - b. Would smaller organizations (HOAs, small contractors) respond better to a simpler form? Share ideas on what information elements/approach would be most effective to create a simpler form.
13. **Format/Clarity:** share any feedback on the format and usability of the draft form
14. **Explaining the Form for Users:** some basic instructions/explanation will be needed to encourage use of the form and foster desired reporting consistency. Comment on the following:
  - a. **Purpose/Objectives:** any specific thoughts on “why” we encourage tracking and reporting. What value could it have to individual organizations/businesses? What value could it have to the NoVA region?
  - b. **Instructions for Data Entry:** options may be traditional narrative instructions or clickable help functions. Share thoughts on what would work best.
  - c. **Submitting Completed Forms:** Share thoughts on what entity(ies) might be the recipient of these forms? What value could aggregated information at the Northern Virginia regional level have?

### Incentives/Encouraging Voluntary Reporting:

15. **What ideas** do members have to **encourage use of reporting form(s)** ultimately included in the SaMS? Certification programs linked to liability reform have been broadly identified as a preferred incentive for SaMS overall. Some other potential leverage/incentives for reporting are local ordinances, potential stormwater tax credits, or acknowledgement/award programs. What reactions or additional thoughts do you have on ways to encourage voluntary reporting?
16. **Performance standards and contract & grant terms** commonly include reporting protocols. Do they offer any reporting approaches we might consider?

### Additional Discussion Questions:

17. **Existing Salt Tracking Reports:** MW-COG and Montgomery County have shared service contracts used by local jurisdictions for purchasing Road/Property (Mont. County) and Sidewalk (MW-COG) salts. Are there any other centralized sources of Product Sales/Deliveries (Private Sector) that may have general relevance to our tracking objectives?
18. **Homeowner Associations:** What do we know, and can we learn more about contracting by HOAs, and the potential for their contracts to facilitate reporting? **Private Companies:** Do we have a sense of the largest private companies operating in N.VA? Should we attempt targeted outreach to selected companies to explore what information they track?
19. **What Else:** IF THERE ARE SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DISCUSSED IN THE APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> MEETING, PLEASE LET DAVE EVANS KNOW IN ADVANCE AND THEY CAN BE ADDED.