A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Environment – Salt Applicator Certification Program – Establishment

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to establish a Salt Applicator Certification Program to encourage efficient winter maintenance of roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks through the use of salt or salt alternatives; requiring each commercial applicator to participate in the Program, be certified on or before a certain date, and maintain a valid certification; and generally relating to a Salt Applicator Certification Program.


SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Environment

SUBTITLE 24. SALT APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

9–2401.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) “CERTIFIED COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR” MEANS A COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR WHO IS CERTIFIED UNDER THE PROGRAM.
(C) (1) “COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR” means an individual who:

   (I) Applies salt or a salt alternative; or

   (II) Supervises other individuals who apply salt or a salt alternative.

(2) “COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR” includes:

   (I) A person hired by a private business owner to apply salt or salt alternative; and

   (II) Property managers.

(3) “COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR” does not include State or local government employees.

(D) “Program” means the Salt Applicator Certification Program.

(E) “SALT” means sodium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, or any other substance that contains chloride and is used for the purpose of de-icing or anti-icing.

(F) “SALT ALTERNATIVE” means any substance that:

   (1) Does not contain chloride; and

   (2) Is used for the purpose of de-icing or anti-icing.

9–2402.

(A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A SALT APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT:

   (I) SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM; OR

   (II) MAY DELEGATE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM TO A PERSON CERTIFIED IN THE USE OF SALT AND SALT ALTERNATIVES FOR THE WINTER MAINTENANCE OF ROADWAYS, PARKING LOTS, AND SIDEWALKS.
(B) The Program shall:

1. Encourage efficient winter maintenance of roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks through the use of salt or salt alternatives; and

2. Provide a certification to a commercial applicator who successfully completes the Program.

(C) (1) The Department shall charge a fee to participate in the Program.

(2) The fee charged under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be set at an amount that recovers the costs of administering the Program.

(D) Each commercial applicator must:

1. Participate in the Program;

2. Be certified on or before October 1, 2024; and

3. Maintain a valid certification to continue providing the services of a commercial applicator.

(E) A salt applicator certification is valid for 3 years.

A certified commercial applicator shall:

1. Maintain, for a minimum of 3 years, records of each salt application for a winter weather event; and

2. Submit an annual report on their salt use to the Department.

The Department may adopt regulations to carry out this subtitle.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.