

## ICE MELT FAQs



### How do ice melters work?

Ice melters work by lowering the freezing point of snow and ice below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. This creates a brine that is capable of melting the snow and ice

### Which ice melter is right for me?

In making your selection, there are several comparatives to consider. First, is your climate. Every area has its own levels of atmospheric moisture, snowfall averages, temperature extremes, etc. Second, is your budget and the amount of surface area you need to treat. Third, you must consider safety and environmental factors. Is simply melting the ice enough? Is traction or a color indicator important?

### How can I avoid/prevent damage to my concrete?

Concrete is porous and absorbs moisture. When you apply ice melt to concrete, the snow and ice melts, and the water is absorbed into the concrete. If the slush is not cleared away promptly, the slush can refreeze. This freeze/thaw cycle is a naturally occurring event that can put added pressure on concrete. To reduce freeze/thaw cycles and the risk of flaking, quickly remove the slush that results from the melted ice and snow. It is also important to note that each product has application instructions on the back of the packaging that should be read before use.

### Are Scotwood Industries' products safe to use around my vegetation?

The effects of ice melters on the environment are a key concern for Scotwood Industries. We consistently review independent studies that focus on ensuring the safety of the environment and determining the proper chemical balance and safe use of all our products. That said, all of Scotwood Industries' ice melters are safe to use around vegetation when the directions on the bag are followed. Scotwood Industries' Greenscapes is a good option for those who are concerned with the environment. It is composed of natural ingredients and has been proven to be gentler on vegetation.

### Some of Scotwood Industries' products come in pellet or flake. What are the differences between the two mediums?

The main purpose of a de-icer is to penetrate through the ice and snow and break the "bond" with the pavement. Pellets come in contact with a very small area of ice so it quickly bores downward to the surface. Flakes, on the other hand have a larger surface area, and penetrate more slowly due to the flatter surface.

### My concrete is less than a year old and I would like to apply ice melt. What do you recommend?

Ice melt should not be applied to concrete that is less than one year old.