

SAFETY DIRECTOR BULLETIN

SALT SHED & SALT DOME BEST PRACTICES

Road salt sheds or salt domes are often tucked in the forgotten and innocuous corners of Public Works facilities, but they become a hotbed of hectic activity before and during snow and winter weather events. Public Works leaders should talk to their employees about recognizing and addressing the significant hazards in and around salt storage facilities.

Significant hazards include being crushed or struck by heavy equipment, engulfed by fine particles stock, and exposed to hazardous chemicals and energy. Please use the table below to recognize, assess and train your employees regarding the hazards with salt sheds and salt domes.

Hazard	Prevent By
Crush-By and Engulfment Hazards	Never approach the vertical face of a stockpile on foot or in a vehicle closer than the vertical dimension of the pile; it might collapse and cover you in an avalanche.
Crush-By and Engulfment Hazards	Never park next to a stockpile or next to loaders or other equipment working a stockpile.
Crush-By and Engulfment Hazards	Never position yourself between the face of a stockpile and an immovable object (such as a loader or other vehicle).
Crush-By and Engulfment Hazards	Never approach the crest closer than 15 feet when working on top of a stockpile.
Crush-By and Engulfment Hazards	Always ensure that you have proper footing when accessing the top of a stockpile, and always be alert for sinkholes or other openings in the surface of the pile.
Crush-By and Engulfment Hazards	Tarped stockpiles must be partially and strategically uncovered during loading and unloading to enable workers to see the pile face and maneuver safely
Contact with Hazardous Energy	<u>Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout) for General Industry</u>
Contact with Hazardous Chemicals	Post sign of salt contents per NJ Right to Know regulations, including chemical common name and CAS number.
Bodily Injury	Wear appropriate personal protective equipment to protect against hazards in the work area.
Struck-By	Do not operate equipment or perform new tasks until adequately trained by a qualified person.
Struck-By	Inspect mobile equipment for hazards and determine safe operating conditions before use.

Additional best practices can be found by reviewing the [Salt Storage Handbook](#).