

SNOW POLLUTION

The Dark Side of Snow

Snow's ability to absorb noise creates a quieter world of white setting the scene for the holiday season. However, snow absorbs much more than just the noise.

In the winter, snow absorbs a wide range of pollutants, including nitrates, sulfuric acid, sea salts, heavy metals, auto emissions, and microorganisms. When the snow melts, these pollutants are carried by the stormwater runoff from the land into storm sewers and out to rivers, lakes, and streams. This can have severe impacts on the health and quality of our surface waters and can adversely affect the wildlife depending on them for habitat and resources.

For this reason, it is important to ensure we all do our part to reduce this pollution by picking up after our pets, following winter salt tips, and keeping up on car maintenance.

