



# Introduction to Road Salt

- Effectiveness of road salt
- Problems caused by road salt
- Trends in NH waterbodies
- What can be done about it?



TOURISM



EMERGENCY



COMMUTING

WHY DO WE  
USE SALT?

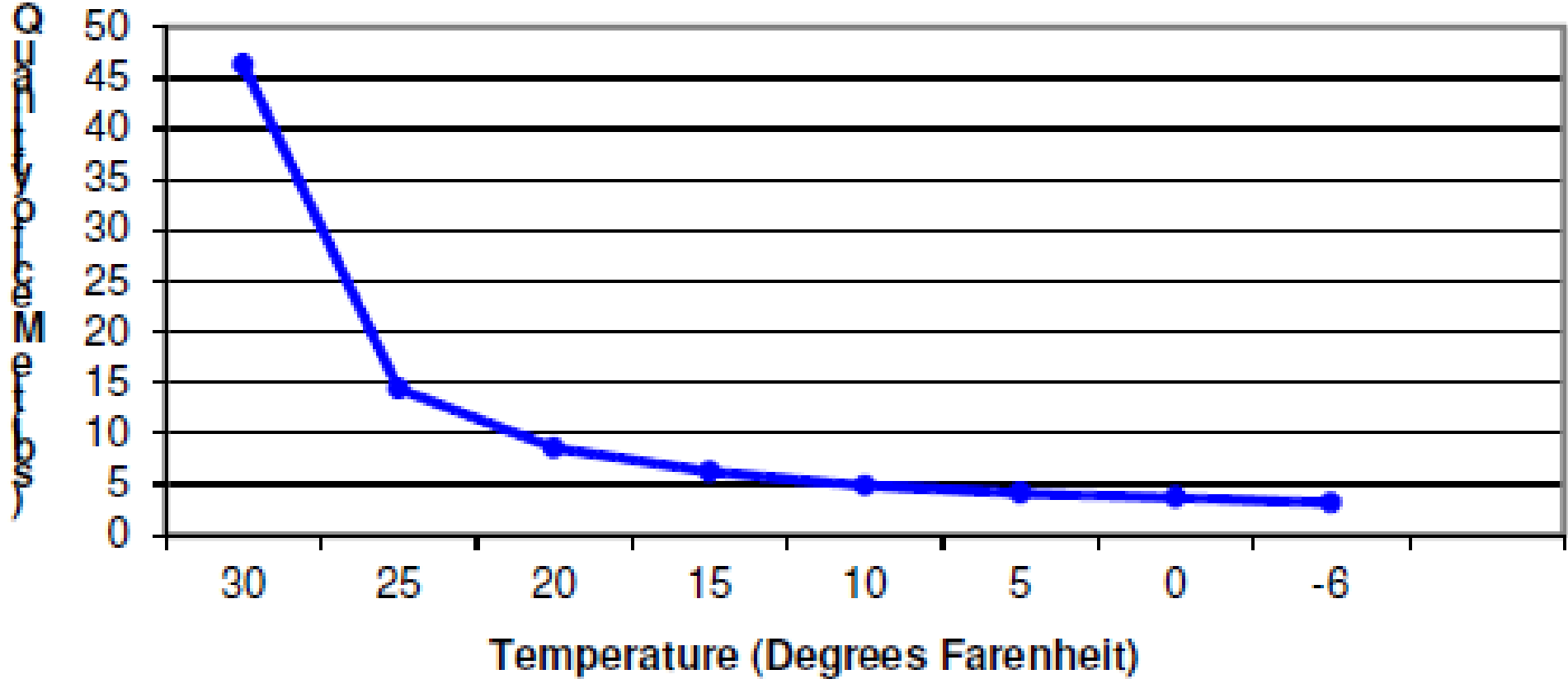


WANTS



NEEDS

### Melting Capacity of 1 lb of Salt



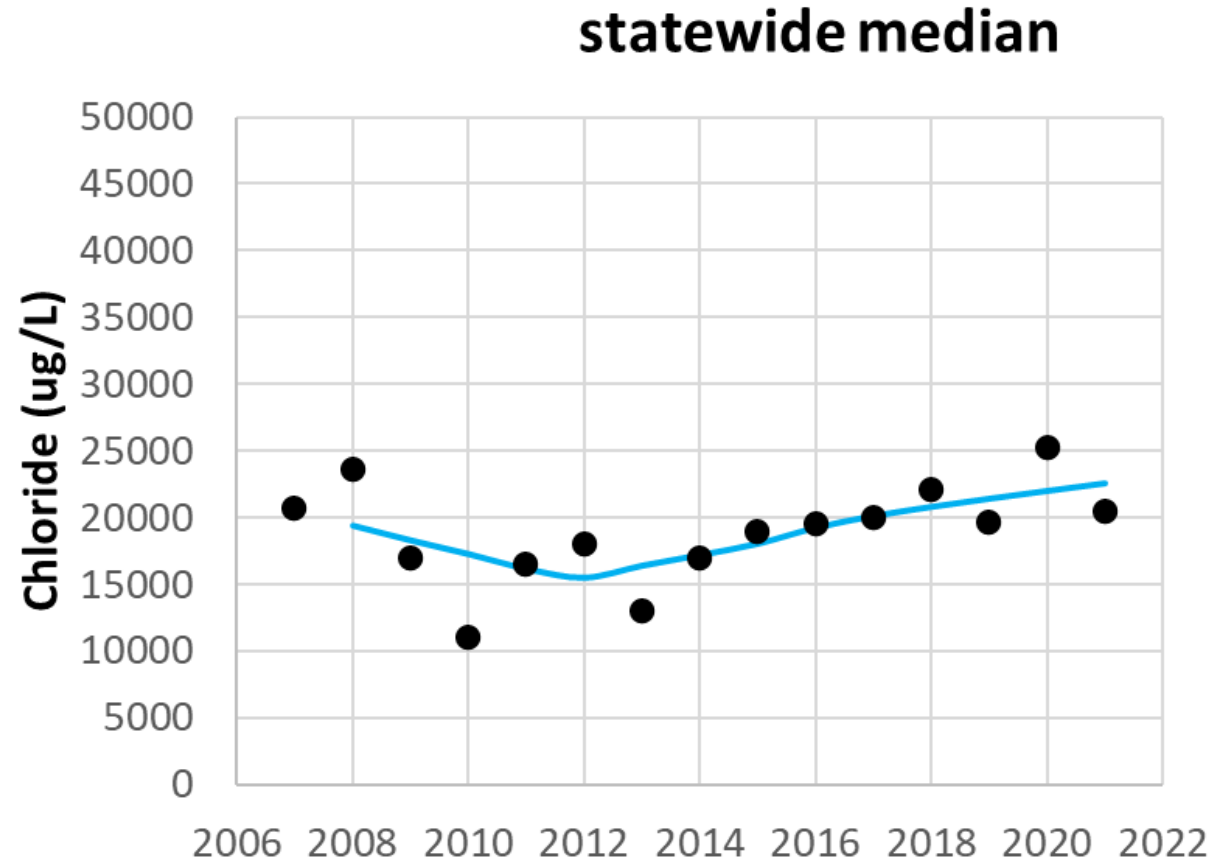
# Problems Caused by Road Salt

- Kills/harms aquatic life
- Changes waterbody dynamics
- Pollutes drinking water
- Corrodes infrastructure
- Mobilizes lead in old pipes
- Stays in the system a long time



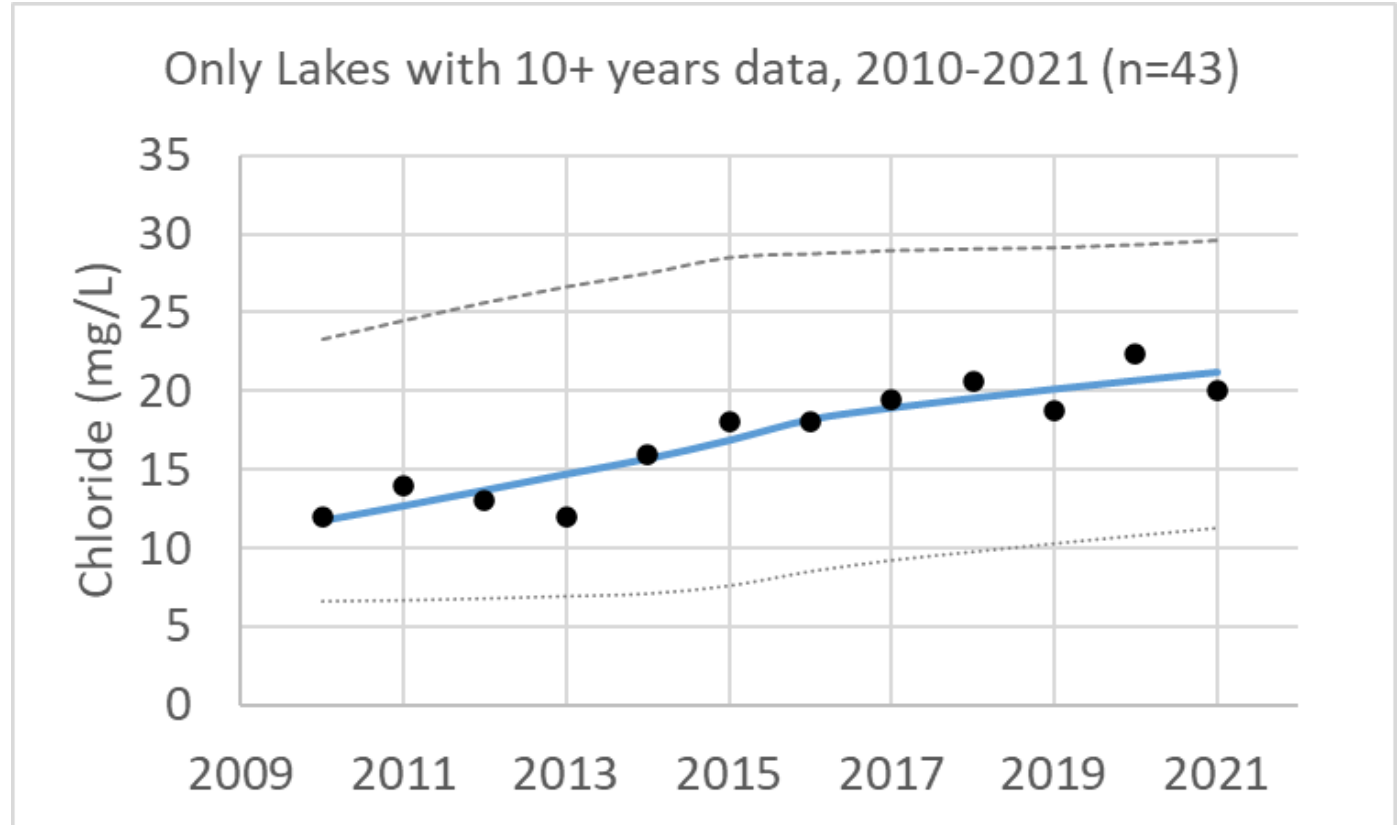
# Trends in NH Rivers: 2001 - 2021

- Median chloride levels are increasing
  - 2010: 11 mg/L
  - 2021: 20.5 mg/L
- 124 sites
  - 59: increasing
  - 62: no trend
  - 2: decreasing
- 2 sites exceed state WQ criteria

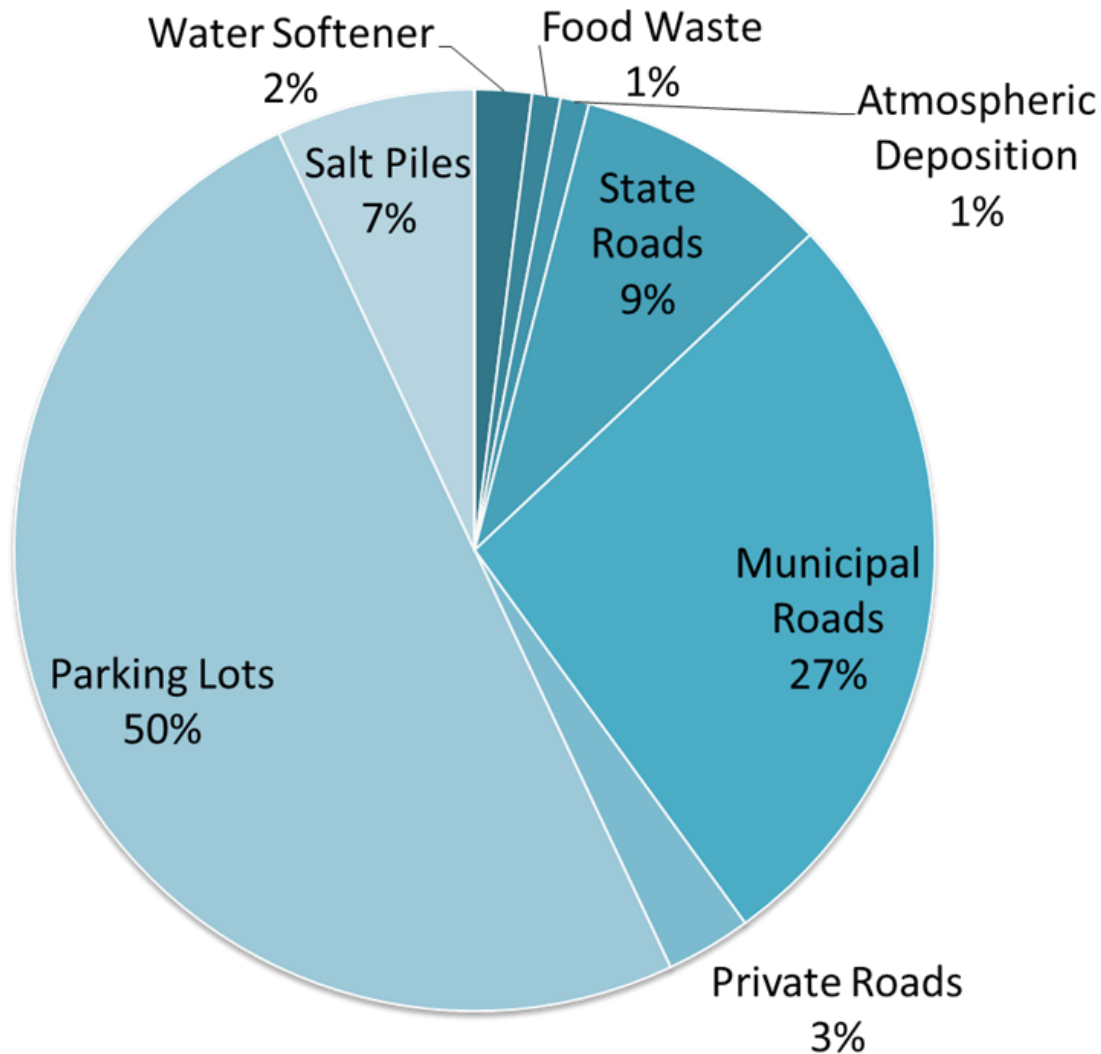


# Trends in NH Lakes: 2010 - 2021

- Median epilimnetic chloride levels are increasing
  - 2010: 12 mg/L
  - 2021: 20 mg/L
- 43 lakes
  - 33 increasing
- 2 lakes exceed state WQ criteria



# Where is the salt coming from?



In urban and suburban areas, most of the salt comes from private parking lots, sidewalks and driveways