
From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 8:03 AM
To: Klemans, Diana (DEQ)
Cc: Walterhouse, Mike (DEQ); Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ); Feuerstein, Heather (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ); Creal, William (DEQ); Fish, Kim (DEQ); Ostlund, Peter (DEQ); Smith, Laura (DEQ); Vanportfleet, Jennifer (DEQ); Kohlhepp, Gary (DEQ); Alexander, Michael (DEQ); Cranson, Jeff (MDOT); Wurfel, Sara (GOV); Murray, David (GOV)
Subject: Re: NPR Interview-Road Salt

I actually just was putting it out there so everyone can know where the story is trying to head. Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 9, 2015, at 5:00 PM, Klemans, Diana (DEQ) <KLEMANS@mdot.state.mi.us> wrote:

Hi Brad,

Our staff are not experts on corrosion or on the chloride concentrations that could be a concern related to corrosion. Perhaps we could provide any surface water information we have to someone in the drinking water program for their analysis. If that will work, please let us know who we should work with. We would be happy to provide assistance.

Dina

Dina Klemans
Chief, Surface Water Assessment Section
Water Resources Division
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
517-284-5510
klemansd@mdot.state.mi.us

From: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 4:56 PM
To: Walterhouse, Mike (DEQ); Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ); Feuerstein, Heather (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ); Creal, William (DEQ); Fish, Kim (DEQ); Ostlund, Peter (DEQ); Smith, Laura (DEQ); Vanportfleet, Jennifer (DEQ); Klemans, Diana (DEQ); Kohlhepp, Gary (DEQ); Alexander, Michael (DEQ)
Cc: Cranson, Jeff (MDOT); Wurfel, Sara (GOV); Murray, David (GOV)
Subject: RE: NPR Interview-Road Salt

Thanks, Mike. Reporter also wanted to know if there was a way to link this story to Flint -- any chance the river water there may be more corrosive because of a salt issue.

JEFF. heads up.

b

From: Walterhouse, Mike (DEQ)
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 3:47 PM
To: Wurfel, Brad (DEQ); Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ); Feuerstein, Heather (DEQ); Sygo, Jim (DEQ); Creal,

William (DEQ); Fish, Kim (DEQ); Ostlund, Peter (DEQ); Smith, Laura (DEQ); Vanportfleet, Jennifer (DEQ); Klemans, Diana (DEQ); Kohlhepp, Gary (DEQ); Alexander, Michael (DEQ)

Subject: NPR Interview-Road Salt

Today I was interviewed by Rebecca Thiele of public radio WKAR-Kalamazoo.

The interview was prompted by the findings of Western Michigan University, Carla Koretsky, regarding the impact of road salt on a small deep kettle lake within the City of Kalamazoo. We are funding a CMI monitoring grant for Dr. Koretsky to conduct additional assessment of several urban lakes and the associated watersheds. I provided the reporter with the 2 attached reports and the link for a another report prepared by the USGS (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2011/5233/>). These reports all have sections devoted to chlorides and correlate high chloride concentrations in lakes and streams with urban land use.

Questions-roughly & answers- briefly-no particular order

1. From the 2007 NLA report, Mi lakes have higher conductivities and chloride concentrations than lakes nationally and within the upper Midwest ecoregion. Why? Speculated that compared to the rest of nation, particularly compared to the southern states, we have more sources including road salt. Compared to other states in the upper Midwest ecoregion we have more lakes in urbanized watersheds.
2. Will monitoring be conducted at other Kettle Lakes with urbanized watersheds to document the extent of the problem? Acknowledged that elevated chloride levels have been documented in urbanized areas of Michigan and concentrations in Woods Lake in Kalamazoo are problematic which is why we are funding additional work to document the extent of the problem and sources. We will routinely continue to monitor Michigan's resources for chlorides but the site specific nature of the problem precludes specific sampling for the issue. We do not have a Water Quality Standard for chloride but we have not identified toxicity issues where elevated concentrations have been found.
3. Will construction of roadside retention ditches solve the problem? Explained that best management practices for the typical NPS pollutants our agency addresses may not be appropriate for salt. I made sure the reporter had a contact in MDOT.

Air date for the story is unknown.

Mike Walterhouse, Environmental Quality Specialist
Lake Michigan Unit
Surface Water Assessment Section
Water Resources Division, MDEQ
517-284-5548