

20 INDOT Facilities Win National Safe and Sustainable Snowfighting Award

The Salt Institute has bestowed 20 INDOT facilities with a 2012 “Safe and Sustainable Snowfighting” award. Except for Utah, no other state was recognized more than Indiana.

This honor, given to only 145 local agencies in the United States and Canada, is presented to those who demonstrate excellence in environmental consciousness and effective management in the storage of winter road salt. Four new INDOT facilities were honored by the Salt Institute in their first year of eligibility: the Markle, Michigan City, Sullivan and Westfield Maintenance Units.

From 2007 to 2011, INDOT averaged a use of 336,508 tons of salt annually. About 17 million tons are used nationally per year, and six million more are spread in Canada. Having enough road salt on hand before storms hit requires advanced planning and facilities that provide safe and efficient storage. Winners must also display proper maintenance and good housekeeping practices.

“It’s important to have adequate salt on hand before the first snowflake flies,” said INDOT Facilities and Fleet Director Steve McAvoy. “Therefore, it’s important to properly protect this valuable asset — for saving lives, dollars, and aiding in commerce and productivity on our highways.”

“These facilities have cleared a high bar,” said Salt Institute President Lori Roman. “For example, in minimizing salt runoff alone, 10 specific recommendations must be met.”

“The familiar sight of trucks spreading salt on icy winter roads gives motorists reassurance, as it should,” said Roman. “If that salt was stored in and spread by a facility honored with a Safe and Sustainable Snowfighting award, motorists have the added assurance of knowing the utmost care has been taken to protect public safety and the environment.”

INDOT facilities recognized are listed below.



The Michigan City Maintenance Unit was completed in October 2011.

Albany Subdistrict	Indianapolis Maintenance Unit
Alexandria Maintenance Unit	Linton Maintenance Unit
Aurora Maintenance Unit	Markle Maintenance Unit
Bluffton Maintenance Unit	Michigan City Maintenance Unit
Cambridge City Maintenance Unit	Paoli Maintenance Unit
Chesterton Maintenance Unit	Rensselaer Maintenance Unit
Dale Maintenance Unit	Sullivan Maintenance Unit
Fort Wayne Maintenance Unit	Tipton Maintenance Unit
Gary Maintenance Unit	Westfield Maintenance Unit
Greensburg Maintenance Unit	Winchester Maintenance Unit