



## Porous Pavement: Winter Maintenance Fact Check

Properly designed porous pavement systems are not difficult to maintain in winter weather conditions.



### Winter Maintenance for Porous & Pervious Pavements

Porous pavement systems are a great way to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff on your site, and incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) practices. One of the simplest ways of creating a porous pavement area is to confine unbound aggregate in a rigid paving unit such as the GEOPAVE® Aggregate Porous Paver. The GEOPAVE system is similar to pervious concrete and porous asphalt solutions, but is usually both less expensive and easier to install.

#### Myth: Porous Pavements Are Difficult to Maintain in Winter Weather Conditions.



**NOT TRUE!** The GEOPAVE Aggregate Porous Paver system is easy to maintain, and requires no special equipment. GEOPAVE parking lots or low volume roadways can be maintained in much the same way as a regular concrete or asphalt surface.

An unbound aggregate system has many maintenance benefits over other porous pavement systems. Look at the table above to see how the GEOPAVE system beats pervious concrete and porous asphalt every time.

PAVEMENT TYPE	GEOPAVE® AGGREGATE	PERVIOUS CONCRETE	POROUS ASPHALT	STANDARD CONCRETE OR ASPHALT
<b>NON-SLIP</b>	Open graded surface offers high frictional interface. Very large porosity eliminates icing.	Icing occurs as soon as pores freeze tight. Light color invites icing.	Icing occurs as soon as pores freeze tight. Dark color impedes icing.	Icing occurs as soon as standing water freezes.
<b>SNOWMELT</b>	Subgrade warmth rises through large pore openings/creates melt.	Pore openings clog and freeze tight eliminating airflow. Light color impedes melt.	Pore openings clog and freeze tight eliminating airflow. Dark color promotes melt.	No airflow, preventing subgrade warmth from rising.
<b>WINTER SANDING</b>	Not necessary to create frictional surface.	Strictly prohibited/clogging of pores.	Strictly prohibited/clogging of pores.	Can be used to create frictional surface.
<b>MIGRANT SAND*</b>	Great tolerance due to large pore openings.	Clogging is common and requires pressure washing and vacuuming.	Fine pores clog easily—requires pressure washing and vacuuming.	Not an issue with impervious surfaces.
<b>WINTER SALTING</b>	Not necessary.	Damages the cementitious bond.	Acceptable.	Can be used to promote snowmelt.
<b>PLOWING</b>	Use rubber tip blade or leave blade up one inch over pavement.	Use rubber tip blade or leave blade up two inches over pavement.	Use rubber tip blade or leave blade up two inches over pavement.	No blade restrictions.
<b>DRAINAGE</b>	Very large pore openings result in no drainage problems.	Pore clogging and freeze up require designers to include 2% slope with outlet for sheet drainage.	Pore clogging and freeze up require designers to include 2% slope with outlet for sheet drainage.	No infiltration. All water becomes runoff.

\* Tracked in and dropped by vehicles.

The GEOPAVE rigid porous pavement system is comparable to standard paving materials, and a cut above other porous pavement systems. GEOPAVE systems have all of the benefits of hard surface porous pavements—fast infiltration, reduced runoff, no traffic restrictions—with a safer winter surface, much lower cost, and none of the maintenance hardships.

