

Criteria for fragrance-free products

From Safer Choice Standard Section 3.9 (pg. 11) <<https://epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-choice-standard>>: "For products that qualify for the Safer Choice label, manufacturers may request an additional certification—the Fragrance-free label—to indicate that a product contains no fragrance materials. To qualify as fragrance-free, a product must only contain ingredients on or eligible for the Agency’s Safer Chemical Ingredients List (SCIL) and **must not** contain any fragrance materials. Chemicals with dual functionality, i.e., that function both as a fragrance and something else, are not allowed in fragrance-free products."

Please read "Safer Choice Label – Fragrance-Free" for further details <<https://epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-choice-criteria-fragrance-free-products>>.

Criteria for ice-melt products

An ice-melt product under Safer Choice is, as the name implies, one that melts ice and snow at temperatures below the freezing point of water, and not simply a product that aids traction like sand. A manufacturer of a safer ice-melt product may become a Safer Choice partner provided that they agree to certain terms in their partnership agreement and that their product has the characteristics specified below. Safer Choice ice-melt products must:

1. Pass the appropriate Safer Choice Criteria.
2. Reduce sodium (Na) and chloride (Cl) use by at least 30% (under comparable use scenarios).
3. Be labeled under a Safer Choice partnership agreement in which the product manufacturer has agreed to a customer education/training plan to ensure proper product use and application rates (and reductions in Na and Cl).
4. Not contain cyanide as an anti-caking agent.
5. Function at temperatures <0 °F.

6. Comply with Pacific NW Snow Fighters' criteria [↗](#)

http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_rpt_577.pdf (pdf) for reduction in corrosivity to steel (to be acceptable, a corrosion-inhibition chemical product must prove to have a percent effectiveness value of at least 70% less than Sodium Chloride).

7. Meet performance levels as evaluated under the Pacific NW Snow Fighters' criteria

[↗ http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_rpt_577.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_rpt_577.pdf) (pdf).

Criteria for inorganic- and mineral-based products

To label innovative, safer products, the Safer Choice review focuses on the evaluation of wet-chemical ingredients and formulations. Safer Choice assesses ingredients based on its safer chemical criteria and in comparison to other products/ingredients for similar uses. The Safer Choice Criteria inform on what chemistry is safer by comparing substances, within functional use classes (surfactants, solvents, etc.), against an array of toxicological endpoints. Safer Choice allows the use of its label on those products whose ingredients derive entirely from the safer end of the human health and environmental spectrum.

The standard Safer Choice review is not oriented to evaluating a product composed solely of inorganic materials or minerals, which are typically inert and function via friction rather than chemical activity. Safer Choice recognizes, however, that these products may substitute for chemical-based products that contain ingredients of potential concern and may generate significant direct and collateral human health and environmental benefits. Safer Choice has therefore developed evaluation criteria that may make it possible to label these products (e.g., cleaners made of crushed glass or stones; **not**, however, sodium-chloride-based or similar ice-melt products for which Safer Choice has separate criteria).

A decision to allow use of the Safer Choice label will be based on the following criteria (in addition to the other applicable elements in the Safer Choice Standard):