WINTER SAFETY HAZARDS



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STEPS TO HELP GET THROUGH THE SEASON INJURY-FREE

<u>Slippery surfaces</u> are the most common winter hazard. Using sand to cover icy work areas reduces the risk of slips. Work boots should have good treads just like tires on your vehicle.

Increase "housekeeping" efforts in winter. Keep job sites clean and organized to prepare for winter conditions such as snow. Ankle or knee injuries can easily occur when you step on a hidden object buried in snow.

DANGERS OF CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)

A lot of equipment at work sites burn fuel. Every combustible engine creates carbon monoxide gas (CO). In open environments, carbon monoxide is rarely a safety hazard, but in enclosed work areas and where windows are covered to reduce heat loss, dangerous carbon monoxide can get trapped. Ensure fresh air is continually circulating through all enclosed work areas to help reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

There is a higher risk for fire during colder winter months. Many methods are used to combat the cold at work sites and some are less safe than others. Keep combustible materials and vice versa away from heaters and torches. And be extra cautious to ensure fuel vapours are not collecting in enclosed spaces.

The cold season adds additional delays and obstructions. Scraping ice-covered windshields, traffic jams resulting from accidents, dead car batteries, icy and snowy road conditions, etc. All of these can add stressful disruptions to our daily lives.

Remember preventative maintenance is important! Give yourself extra time to travel and to complete your pre-trip checks and safety tasks.

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