

Slips, Trips, and Falls on Wet Leaves and Surfaces

Slips, trips, and falls are common workplace injuries, especially in autumn when environmental changes increase risks.

Fallen leaves can hide uneven surfaces and debris, creating slippery conditions, particularly when wet from rain or dew. Key areas like entrances, loading docks, and outdoor walkways are especially vulnerable.

Workers working outdoors or moving between buildings should remain vigilant, as even a moment's distraction can lead to injury.

REDUCING FALL RISKS:

- HAZARD PREVENTION MEASURES FOR WALKWAYS



BC Forest Safety

Safety is **good** business

Slips, Trips, and Falls on Wet Leaves and Surfaces



Most workplace falls occur near building entrances and on external stairs, where water and leaves accumulate. Reporting hazards and taking responsibility for keeping communal areas tidy can significantly reduce incidents.

HAZARD PREVENTION MEASURES FOR WALKWAYS:

- **REGULAR MAINTENANCE:** Frequently sweep and clear leaves from walkways, especially after rainfall or high winds.
- **SLIP-RESISTANT FOOTWEAR:** Wear shoes with rubber soles and deep tread patterns that offer better grip on wet and uneven terrain.
- **SIGNAGE AND BARRIERS:** Mark known slippery zones with clear warning signs and temporary barriers when surfaces are being cleaned or are especially treacherous.
- **LIGHTING:** Ensure all outdoor areas are well-lit so potential hazards are visible, particularly during shorter daylight hours in autumn.
- **PROMPT SPILL RESPONSE:** Clean up water spills and puddles immediately inside and outside buildings to prevent slip hazards.

REMEMBER:

Autumn's unique blend of weather and natural debris demands heightened awareness and proactive measures. By prioritizing regular clean-up, effective footwear, and clear communication, you can protect yourself from dangers posed by wet leaves and slippery surfaces, ensuring a safer workplace throughout the season.

Scan the QR code
with your phone's
camera to access all
BCFSC Crew Talks
and to subscribe.

