



CONSTRUCTION
SUPPLIERS
ASSOCIATION

Winter Safety Tips

As temperatures drop and winter hazards increase, we are reminding employers and employees to exercise caution when working in the cold and snow with a new public service campaign.

According recent studies, slips and falls accounted for one-third of all of the state's workers' compensation claims during winter.

"Every employer should have an effective safety and health management system in place to protect its most valuable asset: its employees. "As part of this program, they should prepare for winter conditions and provide helpful information to their employees on how to avoid injury and illness."

Ensuring workplace safety makes good business sense, too.

"Worker injuries can negatively affect a business's bottom line, resulting in increased workers' compensation and insurance costs, overtime, and lost work days for employees. "By taking the proper safety precautions this winter, job providers can avoid nasty slips and falls that will cost them in the future."

Lower workers' comp costs save employers on overhead expenses and give them additional resources to grow their business, hire new workers and increase their employees' salaries.

Here are tips for winter workplace safety

- Keep all walkways cleared of ice and snow.
- Have de-icing products handy for hard-to-remove ice or snow.
- Make sure all walkways and passageways are clearly marked and well-lit.
- Be careful of slippery surfaces inside buildings.
- Wear slip-resistant footwear.
- Practice safe walking on slippery surfaces by taking slow, small steps.
- Avoid carrying heavy loads that may offset your balance.
- Clearly mark or barricade hazardous areas.
- Wear sunglasses on sunny days to lessen winter glare.
- Take extra precaution when entering and exiting vehicles.
- Know the symptoms of frostbite and the first aid steps to address it.