



SIF Prevents: SLIPS, TRIPS, & FALLS

Prepare Your Workplace for Inclement Weather

Now is the time to create an action plan to reduce slips, trips, and falls due to inclement weather conditions. Use these 10 helpful tips to reduce accidents in your workplace.



1. Keep walking surfaces free of clutter and debris

Snow and ice can hide clutter and unsafe conditions on outdoor walkways. Clear leaves and objects before it snows to prevent unseen hazards later.



2. Check stairways and handrails

Ensure handrails are installed at all of your stairways, and that existing handrails are secure.



3. Encourage proper footwear

Remind employees to wear proper footwear for the conditions. Shoes with rubber soles, non-slip soles, and traction aids will help prevent slips on ice.



4. Use proper lighting

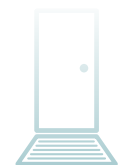
Proper lighting helps employees spot icy patches. Replace burned out light bulbs, and increase lighting in poorly lit parts of the building.



5. Send reminders to employees when conditions deteriorate

Quick reminders can reduce accidents:

- Employees should use special care when getting into and out of their vehicles at the beginning and end of their shift, or when they're leaving the workplace.
- Avoid carrying items that reduce visibility to the ground in front of them – use multiple trips if needed.



6. Provide water absorbent mats and carpets at all building entrances

Use proper carpets, mats, and boot brushes – when snow melts into pools of water, it increases the chance for someone to slip or fall.



7. Walk slowly and take small steps

Encourage employees to take their time in poor weather conditions so they can stay focused and avoid being rushed.



8. Use ice melt and other deicing products

If portions of your facility or a parking lot get icy, be sure to use ice melt and deicer to clear walkways and hazards before the start of business day or whenever ice can form.



9. Promote safety

If an employee notices icy patches or pools of water on floors, encourage them to tell their supervisor. Being aware of hazards and clearing them quickly will reduce accidents.



10. Have a plan

Prior to winter conditions, identify a team to ensure all hazards are abated immediately by:

- Checking walkways and parking lots for ice and excessive snow
- Applying deicer where needed and removing snow
- Training all employees about reporting hazards relating to such conditions