

Newsletter

Spotlight on Safety

National Safety Council

December 2014



About the National Safety Council:

The National Safety Council saves lives by preventing injuries and deaths at work, in homes and communities, and on the roads through leadership, research, education and advocacy. Visit us at nsc.org for up-to-date industry news, information and tools to take your safety program to the next level.



NSC Safety Awards

Employee engagement is key to a successful safety program! An award from the National Safety Council shows them you appreciate their efforts.

Safety awards from NSC instill employee pride; earn respect from your customers, community and peers; and place you one step ahead of your competition. [Learn more.](#)



Welcome to *Spotlight on Safety*, an e-newsletter brought to you by the Department of the Interior Office of Occupational Safety and Health in partnership with the National Safety Council. We hope you will find this service of value.

Send feedback or ideas on topics you would like to see to membershipinfo@nsc.org.

Please put "Department of the Interior feedback" in the subject line.

5-Minute Safety Talk: Give Cold Weather PPE a Warm Welcome

Cold Weather Management

Workers have learned from experience not to touch cold metal with unprotected skin or stay outside too long in extreme cold. But supervisors still must review cold-weather safety procedures with their crews from time

to time. This is especially important at the beginning of the cold-weather season and when workers are distracted or preoccupied for some reason.



Many times workers are alone or in isolated areas so good safety training is especially important. Often workers put themselves in danger when they forget about the cold because they are concentrating on their job. If supervisors remind them about the cold, they are more likely to think about it and take appropriate action.

Download, this [five minute safety talk](#) to help educate your employees on this safety issue.

Holiday Safety Tips



Holidays are a wonderful time of year for getting together and celebrating. Make sure to use these safety tips to keep you and your loved ones safe:

- When putting up holiday decorations, always use

Learn about all the benefits available to you in our new Member Benefits Guide



[See the benefits that are available to you and ALL your employees](#)

- the proper step stool or ladder to reach high places. Don't stand on chairs, desks or other furniture.
- Never use lighted candles near trees, boughs, curtains/drapes, or with any potentially flammable item.
- Use separate cutting boards, plates and utensils for raw (uncooked) produce and for raw (uncooked) meat, poultry, seafood and eggs.
- Always use oven mitts when taking things out of the oven or removing items from the stove.
- Turn off all lights on trees and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. Unplug extension cords when not in use.
- The holiday season is a stressful time. Plan a reasonable number of errands and allow enough time to shop for gifts and meal items rather than hurry through stores and parking lots.
- Being a smart party host or guest should include being sensible about alcoholic drinks. Use "non-drinking" designated drivers to drive other guests home after a holiday party.
- Have shovels and de-icer available to remove snow and ice from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots. Don't forget hats, scarves and gloves to prevent frostbite.

Winter Driving Safety

Severe weather can be both frightening and dangerous for automobile travel. Motorists should know the safety rules for dealing with winter road emergencies. AAA reminds motorists to be cautious while driving in adverse weather. AAA recommends the following winter driving tips:



- Avoid driving while you're fatigued. Getting the proper amount of rest before taking on winter weather tasks reduces driving risks.
- Never warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage.
- Make certain your tires are properly inflated.
- Never mix radial tires with other tire types.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid gas line freeze-up.
- If possible, avoid using your parking brake in cold, rainy and snowy weather.
- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (wet, ice, sand).
- Always look and steer where you want to go.
- Use your seat belt every time you get into your vehicle.

Contact your local [AAA](#) club for more information.

Featured safety poster

"Beware of Icy Patches"

Make sure employees are prepared for winter driving with this [downloadable poster](#).



Featured Webinar

[Don't fall victim to inclement weather - Drive Defensively](#)



You can access all members-only webinars by clicking [here](#).

