

Anayahait

To Be Safe



UKPEAGVIK
IŃUPIAT
CORPORATION

Safety Tip of the Month

Winter Weather: Plan, Equip, and Train

Hazards/Precautions

Although employers cannot control roadway conditions, they can promote safe winter driving by ensuring workers recognize hazards such as snow- and ice-covered roads, receive proper training, and are licensed (as applicable) for the vehicles they operate. For more information, visit OSHA's Safe Winter Driving page.

Employers should set and enforce driver safety policies and maintain an effective vehicle maintenance program. Many crashes can be avoided. Learn more at OSHA's Motor Vehicle Safety page.

Employers should ensure properly trained workers inspect the following vehicle systems to confirm they are working properly:

- **Brakes:** Brakes should provide even and balanced braking. Also check that brake fluid is at the proper level.
- **Cooling System:** Ensure a proper mixture of 50/50 antifreeze and water in the cooling system at the proper level.
- **Electrical System:** Check the ignition system and make sure that the battery is fully charged and that the connections are clean. Check that the alternator belt is in good condition with proper tension.
- **Engine: Inspect all engine systems.**
- **Exhaust System:** Check exhaust for leaks and that all clamps and hangers are snug.
- **Tires:** Check for proper tread depth and no signs of damage or uneven wear. Check for proper tire inflation.
- **Oil:** Check that oil is at proper level.
- **Visibility Systems:** Inspect all exterior lights, defrosters (windshield and rear window), and wipers. Install winter windshield wipers.

Work Zone Traffic Safety

Workers struck by vehicles or mobile equipment account for many work

zone injuries and fatalities each year.

Winter conditions increase the risk of skidding or loss of control, making it critical to set up work zones with proper traffic controls such as signs, cones, barrels, and barriers.

Shoveling Snow

Shoveling snow is physically demanding and can lead to exhaustion, dehydration, back injuries, or even heart attacks. Workers should take frequent breaks in warm areas, warm up before starting, and lift safely by scooping small amounts and pushing snow when possible. Proper technique—keeping the back straight and lifting with the legs—helps prevent injury.

Removing Snow from Roofs and Working at Heights

Employers must evaluate snow removal tasks for hazards and plan work carefully. Ice layers can make surfaces more slippery, and snow-covered roofs may hide hazards such as skylights. A competent person should inspect any snow-loaded surface to ensure it is structurally safe before workers access it. Electrical hazards from power lines or equipment may also be present.

Employers can reduce risk by using removal methods that avoid roof access when possible. They should select appropriate equipment (ladders, aerial lifts, etc.) and personal protective equipment (fall arrest systems, non-slip boots, etc.), and ensure workers are trained in proper use. For more information, see [OSHA's Hazard Alert: Falls and Other Hazards to Workers Removing Snow from Rooftops and Other Elevated Surfaces](#).

Source

[Winter Weather - Hazards/Precautions | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)



Winter Hazards & Cold Stress

Winter Weather Preparedness

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.

Winter storms including blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice and high winds.



A Winter Storm can bring:



A winter storm can also last a few hours or several days. It can cut off your heat, power, and communications services, as well as put older adults, children, pets, and sick individuals at risk.

Generator Safety:

Generators can be a helpful tool when the power goes out, but it is important to know how to use them safely to prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning and other hazards.

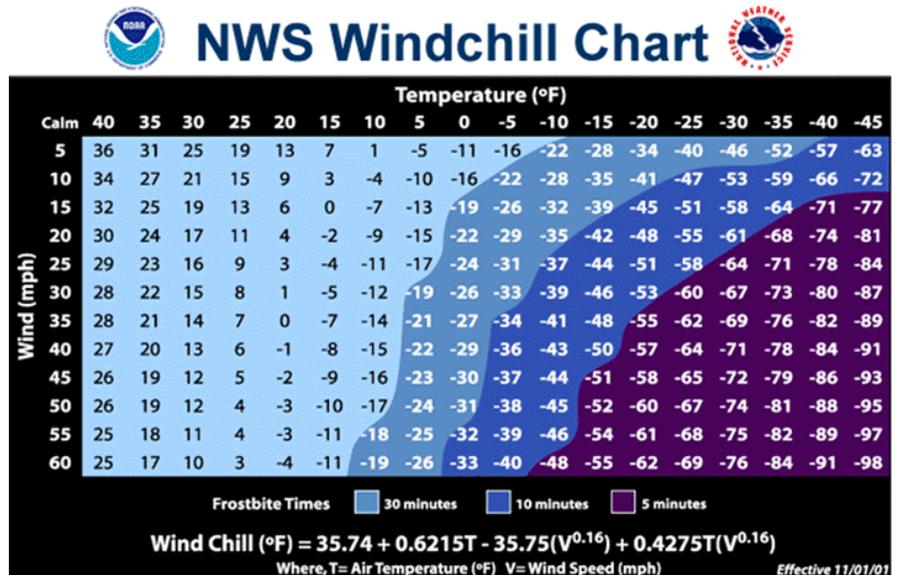
- Generators and fuel should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows, doors and attached garages.
- Install working carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that can kill you, your family and pets.
- Keep the generator dry and protected from rain or flooding. Touching a wet generator or devices connected to one can cause electrical shock.
- Always connect the generator to appliances with heavy-duty extension cords.
- Let the generator cool before refueling. Fuel spilled on hot engine parts can ignite.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions carefully.

Additional recourses: [Ready.Gov](#) | [Gas Range Safety](#)

Dangerous Winds

Wind Chill Safety

The combination of wind and low temperature in winter can be deadly. The wind chill index helps you determine when dangerous conditions develop that could lead to frostbite or hypothermia. It takes into account heat loss from the human body to its surroundings during cold and windy weather. The calculation utilizes wind speed in miles per hour and temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. For example, a temperature of minus 5 degrees occurring with a 20-mph wind gives a wind chill near minus 30 degrees (see wind chill calculation table below). This means that your body will lose heat at the same rate as it would if the air temperature were minus 30 degrees with no wind. Wind chill values near minus 25 degrees, meaning that frostbite is possible within 15 minutes.



The National Weather Service will issue wind chill advisories and warnings when a deadly combination of wind and cold air threatens.

When cold weather threatens, follow these tips for survival:

- Stay dry. Wet clothing results in much faster heat loss from your body. Wear waterproof insulated boots.
- Stay covered. Wear mittens or gloves and wear a hat. At least half of your body heat is lost if your head is not covered.
- Dress layered. Trapped air between loose fitting clothing helps to insulate.
- Stay informed. Have a portable NOAA weather radio nearby to keep you up-to-date with the latest forecasts and warnings. Use wind chill temperatures to guide you in dressing properly for the outdoors. On very cold days, minimize your exposure to the outdoors if possible.

[Click here](#) to learn more information about staying safe.

Space Heaters in the Workplace

How to Stay Safe

As colder weather approaches, space heaters are commonly used in offices, trailers, and work areas. While they provide warmth, space heaters are a leading cause of workplace fires when not used properly. Following a few simple safety rules can help prevent injuries, fires, and property damage.



Why Space Heaters Are a Risk

Space heaters produce high heat and can easily ignite nearby materials such as paper, cardboard, clothing, wood, dust, or chemicals. On job sites, uneven surfaces, temporary power, and combustible materials increase this risk.

Space Heater Safety Guidelines:

- **Keep Clear Space**
 - Maintain at least 3 feet of clearance on all sides of the heater. Keep it away from paper, rags, curtains, solvents, and other flammable materials.
- **Stable Placement**
 - Place heaters on a stable, level, non-combustible surface. Never use them on desks, pallets, or uneven ground.
- **Electrical Safety**
 - Plug heaters directly into a wall outlet. Do not use extension cords, power strips, or adapters, which can overheat and cause fires.
- **Do Not Leave Unattended**
 - Turn off and unplug heaters when leaving the area, during breaks, or at the end of the workday.
- **Avoid High-Risk Areas**
 - Do not use space heaters near flammable gases, vapors, dust, fuel storage, welding operations, or other ignition hazards.
- **Use Safety Features**
 - Heaters should have automatic shut-off and tip-over protection to reduce fire risk.

Job Site Reminder

- Temporary heating on job sites must follow site-specific safety plans and fire codes. Use heaters only in appropriate areas and never block exits or walkways.

Everyone Plays a Role

- Fire safety is everyone's responsibility. If you notice unsafe heater use, damaged equipment, or fire hazards, report it to your supervisor immediately.

Stay warm, stay alert, and stay safe!

Winter Sport Safety Tips

Ensuring Winter Sport Safety

Ensuring safety during winter sports involves proper preparation, awareness of risks, and the use of appropriate gear to prevent injuries.

Common Risk in Winter Sports

Winter sports can be thrilling but come with inherent risks due to factors like freezing temperatures, slick surfaces, and high speeds. Common injuries include sprains, fractures, and head injuries, particularly in activities like skiing and snowboarding, which account for a significant percentage of winter sports injuries.

WINTER HEALTH SAFETY

- Frostbite:** Frostbite injures the skin and other tissues. Nearly 10,000 people in the U.S. are affected each year. The nose, cheeks, lips, ears, hands, and feet are most vulnerable. If skin is red, numb, hard or pale, seek medical attention to prevent infection and damage.
- Snow Shoveling:** Shoveling snow can cause several health concerns, from muscle strains to heart attack. To remove snow safely, use an ergonomic shovel, warm up, keep up with the snow as it falls, push the snow instead of throwing it, take breaks, keep hydrated, and use legs if you must lift.
- Falls:** Falls contribute to 40% of brain injuries—more than any other factor. Navigate icy sidewalks and parking lots by keeping arms free, wearing proper shoes and walking like a penguin with feet turned outward.
- Wet Clothing:** Wet clothing makes you feel even colder. If possible, change clothes if they get wet to prevent a loss of body heat. Also dress in layers, wear a hat, a scarf to cover your mouth, mittens, and outer wear with a wind-resistant material.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Copyright © 2019, Righttime Inc.

Righttime
MEDICAL CARE

The Do's and Don't of Cold Weather Sports:

- **Wear Safety Gear:** Use proper protective equipment such as helmets, goggles, and padding, and make sure it fits correctly.
- **Dress for Conditions:** Wear layers to stay warm and dry, including a moisture-wicking base, insulating middle, and waterproof outer layer.
- **Check the Weather:** Review forecasts and avalanche warnings before heading out, and avoid unsafe conditions.
- **Warm Up First:** Stretch and warm up to help prevent injuries.
- **Know Your Limits:** Stay within your ability level and consider lessons if you are new to the sport.
- **Inspect Equipment:** Check gear regularly for damage or wear to reduce accident risk.
- **Stay Fueled and Hydrated:** Drink water and eat enough to maintain energy during activity.
- **Use a Buddy System:** Participate with a partner so help is available in an emergency.
- **Follow Slope Rules:** Obey posted signs and resort guidelines for everyone's safety.
- **Learn Emergency Basics:** Know how to respond to cold-related illnesses like hypothermia and frostbite

Common Risk in Winter Sports

By following these safety tips and being aware of the risks associated with winter sports, participants can significantly reduce the likelihood of injuries and enjoy a safer winter season. Always prioritize safety to ensure that winter sports remain a fun and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

The Safety Insider

DOT Marijuana Testing Requirements Remain in Force

The Department of Transportation (DOT) has announced that employers must continue to conduct drug testing for marijuana for workers in safety-sensitive transportation positions. This requirement remains unchanged, even as national discussions around marijuana policy continue to evolve.



Although President Trump issued an Executive Order (E.O. 14370) on December 18 directing the Department of Justice to complete the process of rescheduling marijuana under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) from a Schedule I to a Schedule III drug, marijuana is still classified as a Schedule I controlled substance at this time. Because the rescheduling process has not been finalized, DOT regulations and drug testing rules remain fully in effect.

Employees in safety-sensitive transportation roles—including pilots, school bus drivers, truck drivers, train engineers, subway operators, aircraft maintenance personnel, transit fire-armed security personnel, ship captains, and pipeline emergency response personnel—are still required to undergo marijuana testing under DOT drug and alcohol testing programs. These positions involve public safety responsibilities where impairment could have serious consequences.

The DOT has also emphasized that its existing guidance regarding medical and recreational marijuana use, as well as products containing Cannabidiol (CBD), continues to apply. Even if marijuana use is permitted under certain state laws or prescribed for medical purposes, it remains prohibited for DOT-regulated employees, and positive test results may still lead to removal from safety-sensitive duties.

Employers should ensure that their drug testing policies and compliance programs remain aligned with DOT requirements and that employees clearly understand that federal testing rules take precedence in regulated transportation industries.

[DOT Marijuana Testing Requirements Remain in Force - EHSLeaders.](#)

The Battery Network



After nearly three decades as Call2Recycle, we are evolving our name to The Battery Network — a name that better reflects the scale of the system we’ve built together and the impact we are poised to make in the years ahead..

What does this mean for you?

On a practical level, nothing about your day-to-day experience is changing. This is a brand evolution, not an operational one. Our programs, collection and logistics processes, safety and compliance standards, service levels, and support contacts all remain the same. Our stewardship model, mission, and values are unchanged.

You’ll begin to see The Battery Network name and visual identity appear on our website, materials, and communications starting today, January 13, 2026. Updated collection boxes and signage will begin rolling out toward the end of January and will be phased in thoughtfully, allowing us to continue using existing inventory where appropriate.

While our name is changing, our commitment to you is not. We remain the same trusted partner you know — grounded in safety, compliance, environmental stewardship, and customer support — now with a brand that better reflects the work we do together.

Thank you for being part of this network and for the important role you play in keeping batteries out of landfills and communities safer. Together, we are powering what’s next.

Four-Step Reporting Process

January 2026

Report ALL bodily injury (workers compensation), property damage (automobile/building), and near misses/close calls. Below are the four steps for reporting an incident:



EVALUATE

Evaluate the situation & determine if 911 should be called. When in doubt call 911.



CONTACT

Contact your supervisor. Be prepared to give them the following information:
Who, What, Where, and When.



CALL

Call your local Health and Safety team member:

Michelle Brickie	(UICGS) (Killeen, TX)	907.677.5219
Carl Nayakik	(UICAOD) (Utqiagvik, AK)	907.852.7072
Mauricio Gueco	(UICCS) (Anchorage, AK)	907.600.9233
Kevin O'Shea	(BT) (Anchorage, AK)	907.677.5292
Ron Hoon	(UICGS) (Lead, PA)	717.422.6626
Martanaze Hancock	(UICGS) (Springfield, VA)	703.399.9477
Aaron Ludwick	(UICGS) (Springfield, VA)	571.329.6618
Kenneth Scott	(UICGS) (Springfield, VA)	443.252.7074
Thomas Olemaun	(UIC Science) (Utqiagvik, AK)	907.677.5220
Michael Timo	(UICGS) (Portland, OR)	571.319.9490
Michael Hawkins	(UICGS) (Fac. Mgt.) (Springfield, VA)	703.405.0314
Bernice Oyagak	(UICCS) (UIC Municipal) (W&S) (North Slope, AK)	907.360.5047
Jason Howard	(UICGS) (Crane, IN)	812.854.3523
Christopher Monetta	(UIC) (Springfield, VA)	540.656.0740



COMPLETE

Complete & return the **INOI** (Initial Notification of Incident) form(s).

Piyagquntailakta

Let Us Go Without Injury

Confidentiality Notice: This information is intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is confidential, proprietary, privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure. If you are not an intended recipient, please (i) do not read, copy or use this communication, or disclose it to other(s), (ii) notify the sender immediately by replying to the message, and (iii) delete this information from your system.