

TOOL BOX TALKS

Municipal Slips & Trips: Outdoor Work

Just about every municipal worker is required to work outdoors. Outdoor work occurs at all times of the day due to callouts. Prevent slips, trips and the resulting falls during the day or night. Be ready with the right protective clothing and footwear, but also use flood lights, vehicle lighting and flashlights to scan the walkway ahead. Minimize running. Plan your path. Review this document with municipal workers, including police and fire departments, to raise awareness about slip, trip and fall prevention.

WORKSAFE TIPS

- It sounds odd, but don't talk on the cell phone and walk through tall grass, snow, or on ice. Distractions reduce situational awareness.
- Plan your route. Take the safest path. Minimize crossing ditches, walking down embankments, when a safer path will work.
- Continually scan the walking path. Scan old sidewalks for trip hazards. Scan for mud that will cause you to slip. Slow down.
- Meter readers are very susceptible to falls because of the rough terrain they must cross. Slow down and scan the walking path before entering each property.
- Be prepared before working in residential areas. Residential areas are typically less controlled and will have tall grass, hidden holes or washouts and other hidden hazards.
- Be prepared before going out. Sidewalks, parking lots and streets will all have uneven terrain.
- Always use footwear that is laced properly and that provides ankle support.



Have a flashlight ready.
Use truck and flood lights.



Scan for sidewalk slip & trip hazards.



Beware ice under your feet
when getting out of vehicles.



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