

WINTER WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

Construction

Winter does not stop construction from continuing. Workers are still expected to work, so it is important to keep them safe during winter weather.

CHECK & CLEAR SITE

- Look for downed power lines and trees.
- Remove snow and ice from working areas.
- Lay salt or sand on icy areas.
- Remove icicles or section off areas that can produce falling object hazards.

MONITOR WEATHER

- You want to avoid your workers getting caught in a bad winter storm.
- Allow enough time for workers to secure the work site and return home safely.

HEATED BREAK

- Workers will use more energy during cold weather to help warm their bodies. Provide a heated area where they can warm up and re-energize.
- Promote frequent breaks to limit their exposure to the cold weather.

CORRECT PPE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Hardhats with liners to help retain heat.
- Gloves or mittens that still allow workers to use their hands.
- Waterproof boots.
- Anti fog spray on protective eye ware.
- Inspect and adjust fall arrest systems.

PREPARE EQUIPMENT

- Follow instructions on how to correctly warm up heavy equipment.
- Ensure heaters in cabs are working.
- After each use, drain air compressor tank fluids to prevent freezing.
- Fire empty nail guns at 40 PSI.

CLOTHING

- Find the perfect balance between good mobility and the right amount of layers to stay warm.
- Wear a waterproof outer layer.
- Change into dry clothes if clothes become wet.
- Limit how much skin is exposed to the elements.

EMERGENCY KITS

Ensure work vehicles are supplied with cold weather emergency kits.

Kit Supplies

- Sleeping bag
- Water
- Shovel
- Ice scraper & brush
- Non-perishable snacks
- Tow straps
- Emergency flares
- Backup battery for cell phone