

SAFETY

TIP OF THE MONTH

Winter Weather Slips & Falls

Winter can often mean periods of icy or snowy weather. While the Facilities Departments works diligently to remove snow and ice from walkways and building entrances, you still may encounter slippery surfaces while walking around campus. Environmental Health and Safety and Facilities offer the following tips for avoiding slips and falls during this winter season:

- * Select appropriate footwear. There is no single shoe sole material that is perfect under all conditions, however, footwear with rubber or neoprene composite soles provide better traction on ice and snow than leather or plastic.
- * Think about the best route to your destination and plan on a little extra time to get there. Avoid rushing, taking shortcuts over snow piles or traversing areas where snow or ice removal is incomplete.
- * Test the travel path for slickness by sliding your shoe/boot on it before proceeding.
- * If you have no choice but to walk on a slippery surface, bend slightly forward and shorten your stride or shuffle your feet for better stability. Walk slowly; never run on snow or ice covered surfaces.
- * Many slips and falls occur during entry or exit from vehicles. Be particularly careful and hold on to the vehicle for support.
- * When entering a building take advantage of floor mats to remove moisture from the soles of your shoes. This will help protect you, as well as others who follow, from having to walk on wet or slippery surfaces.
- * Take responsibility for immediately reporting slip and fall hazards.



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