

A loss control and risk management communication for schools.

Extra Credit

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Avoiding Winter Slips, Trips and Falls

The rains have come, the snow has fallen and the ice has built up around your schools. It's that time of year, and along with it comes a dramatic increase in risk from slip, trip and fall injuries. And even though we live and work in a state that has snow and ice on the ground for a lengthy period of time each year, we sometimes forget how to navigate through it safely.

Consider the following suggestions to help reduce slips, trips and falls in your schools:

Buildings, Parking Lots and Sidewalks

- Ensure that your district is the top priority of your snow removal company.
- Provide snow and ice removal equipment in readily accessible areas.
- Spread a mixture of sand and salt near every door:
- Place signs on the doors when snow and ice conditions are present.
- Place warning signs in areas where snow and ice typically accumulate.
- Use mats or rugs in heavily trafficked areas where the floors are often wet.
- Provide proper lighting for the parking lots, sidewalks and entrances.
- Routinely mop and dry floors when wet conditions are present.
- Utilize dryers and fans to help dry wet floors.

Employees, Students and Parents

- Wear boots or shoes appropriate for snow and ice conditions.
- Avoid "short cuts" over snow piles, and areas where snow and ice collect.
- Use your vehicle for support when exiting and entering it.
- Take short steps and maintain your center of balance over your feet.
- Don't run on snow or ice . . . walk slowly.
- Change your route if snow or ice is clearly visible in your path.
- Travel on sidewalks that have been shoveled, sanded and salted.
- Avoid carrying loads that make it difficult for you to see.
- Report wet and slippery areas to the appropriate individuals.

If you have any additional questions or comments, please contact Tom Gross at (612) 766-3165 or tgross@riverportinsurance.com.

Let's All Watch Our Step!!

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