

Spring Ready

Wildlife & Environment

Winter is finally coming to an end. We can sense the change in the air and so can nature. Animals are coming out of their winter slumber, ice and snow is melting and a new set of safety challenges are coming our way.

Wildlife

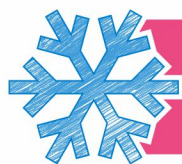
Wildlife can pose a threat when travelling on the road and our work site.

- Deer are in birthing season and can be aggressive when approached. As well, they tend to travel more often than in winter and during dawn or dusk, making them hard to detect when driving outside the city.
- Coyotes are in pupping season which can make them hungry and aggressive. They've been known to attract and injure pets.
- Be respectful to our animal neighbours as they can be particularly vulnerable in spring. Take care to look for bird nests when trimming trees or small animal nests when moving brush piles or mowing for the first time of the season.

Change in the Weather

Even though the weather is becoming warmer, travelling in spring can be much more dangerous than in winter time. As the temperature fluctuates above and below zero to a large degree, ice and snow will go through freezing and thawing more rapidly.

- When getting out of your vehicle, step down, not out. This means swing both legs out the door and place both feet flat on the ground. Stand up, hold the door frame or steering wheel for support. It is important to always maintain 3-points of contact when exiting your vehicle.
- When stepping down from a curb, step off the curb flat footed and don't allow your leading foot to land heel first.
- Ensure that winter tires and appropriate footwear are used until the snow and ice are gone.
- Be diligent to keep walkways clean of snow and ice as even if they appear to be thawed, runoff and overnight freezing could leave a freshly slippery surface come morning.
- Keep ice melters and sand nearby building entrances. Convenient access to these products helps them get used.



Safety never hibernates!

Do not take shortcuts because spring weather has arrived.
Always be aware of your surroundings and think "am I at risk".



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