



# Walkways

## Indoors & Outdoors

Conditions in the winter season change everyday creating unpredictable hazardous environments. It is important to recognize when a walkway is unsafe to prevent a slip, trip or fall. Ensuring walkways are shoveled, de-iced, free of debris and well lit combined with personal precautions like assuming all wet surfaces are slippery, walking with short shuffle-like steps and using handrails can prevent a fall.



### Potential Hazards

- Frost, snow, and ice in parking lots, walkways, stairs and entrance ways.
- Wet or oily work areas.
- Identify how you will control an unclear view point so your safety is not jeopardized. An unclear view point can be: dim lighting, blind spots, or object buried under the snow.
- Smooth, cold surfaces such as metal stairs and tile floors.
- Loose items on top of surfaces such as unanchored or wrinkled mats and loose small gravel.
- Poor housekeeping and lighting.
- Buried obstacles and equipment.

### Personal Hazard Controls

- Do not be distracted when walking and ensure you have a stable foot placement with each step.
- Take your time and don't rush.
- Identify how you will control poor sight / viewing conditions so your safety is not jeopardized. Poor sight/viewing conditions can be dim lighting, blind spots, or objects buried under the snow.
- Shorten your stride and point your feet outward slightly when walking to help prevent a slip, trip or fall.
- Keep at least one hand free for balance and to help break a fall.



### What's my responsibility?

If you see something, say something. Reporting potential hazards is the best and easiest way to prevent an injury from occurring.