

# *Tips for* Winter Workplace Safety

## *Don't Roll the Dice with Snow and Ice*

The cold weather season can be a particularly hazardous time for employers and employees. This winter, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) is reminding employers and employees to exercise caution when working in the cold and snow.

“Every employer has a responsibility to provide workers with a place of employment free from recognized hazards,” said MIOSHA Director Bart Pickelman. “This is especially important during the winter season when workers are more prone to slips, trips and falls. MIOSHA encourages employers to prepare for winter conditions by taking precautions and providing helpful information to their employees on how to avoid injury and illness.”

### *Safety Precautions:*

- Keep all walkways cleared of ice and snow.
- Have de-icing products handy for hard-to-remove ice or snow.
- Make sure all walkways and passageways are clearly marked and well-lit.
- Be careful of slippery surfaces inside buildings.
- Wear slip-resistant footwear.
- Practice safe walking on slippery surfaces by taking slow, small steps.
- Avoid carrying heavy loads that may offset your balance.
- Clearly mark or barricade hazardous areas.
- Wear sunglasses on sunny days to lessen winter glare.
- Take extra precaution when entering and exiting vehicles.
- Know the symptoms of frostbite and the first aid steps to address it.



*More helpful information and public service announcements can be found at:*

**[www.michigan.gov/winterworker](http://www.michigan.gov/winterworker)**