



CONSTRUCTION SAFETY

Construction doesn't stop when winter weather strikes, so it's important to know what steps to take to keep your workers warm and safe. Before the next major winter storm starts to impact your area with snow and ice accumulation.

Inspect & Clear Job-sites

When winter weather hits you need to inspect your construction sites for downed power lines and trees before allowing workers to begin work. Clear all snow and ice from walking and working surfaces, including walkways, roofs, scaffolding, and ladders. Be sure to stress the importance of fall safety protection to workers when icy conditions exist.

Put down salt or sand to melt icy patches and improve traction for workers. Make sure icy areas that can't be cleared are clearly marked and instruct workers to slow down and take shorter steps, especially when carrying materials and tools to avoid slips.

Provide Proper PPE

Gloves and mittens should be selected that enable workers with enough manual dexterity to work with tools and materials. Remind workers to keep their gloves on at all times, especially when climbing ladders, scaffolding, or getting onto construction equipment.

Workers should wear waterproof boots with non-slip soles and extra socks to protect against the cold if wearing steel-toed boots since the metal acts as a cold sink.

Make sure personal fall arrest systems are adjusted to properly fit over bulkier clothing and inspect them before each use to ensure straps aren't frozen with ice..

Layer on the Clothing

Keeping warm is one of the most important things when working in cold weather.

Layer clothing with some moisture-wicking thermals on your inner layer and have a waterproof outer layer to prevent moisture from soaking into your clothing. If clothing gets wet, it's important to change into dry clothes to avoid losing body heat.

Limit the amount of skin exposed to cold temperatures with careful attention to the extremities by wearing knit hats and earmuffs for the head, wool socks for the feet, balaclavas for the face, and gloves and mittens for the hands.



