

Toolbox Talk # 30

WINTER DRIVING



Company Name:	
Job Name:	
Date:	

Key Points

1. **Winter driving** on construction sites requires extra caution due to icy, slippery, and unpredictable conditions.
2. **Vehicles and equipment** must be inspected daily for ice buildup, low tire pressure, and proper fluid levels.
3. **Drivers should reduce speed** and increase following distances to prevent skidding and collisions.
4. **Snow and ice should be cleared** from windshields, mirrors, and lights to maintain full visibility.
5. **Workers must wear high-visibility** clothing to ensure they are seen in low-light winter conditions.
6. **Black ice is a major hazard**—drivers should stay alert on bridges, ramps, and shaded areas.
7. **Emergency supplies**, including blankets, flashlights, and sand or salt, should be kept in all work vehicles.
8. **Communication is critical**—drivers should report hazardous conditions and follow site-specific winter driving protocols.

You're roughly 2.5 times more likely to have
an accident when driving in winter
conditions compared to normal weather.



Top 5 winter driving risks...

1. **Icy Roads** – Reduced traction increases the risk of skidding.
2. **Poor Visibility** – Snow and fog make hazards harder to see.
3. **Cold-Related Breakdowns** – Freezing temperatures can disable vehicles.
4. **Longer Stopping Distances** – Slippery roads make braking less effective.
5. **Driver Fatigue** – Harsh conditions increase strain and slower reaction times.



1. Are my tires, brakes, and lights ready for winter conditions?
2. Have I checked the weather and planned a safe route?
3. Am I driving at a safe speed for road conditions?
4. Do I have emergency supplies in case of a breakdown?

Slow down, take care on ice and snow, safe driving's the way to go.

Summary

Winter driving on construction sites increases risks due to ice, snow, and low visibility. Workers must drive cautiously, inspect vehicles for winter readiness, and use proper tires and chains. Staying alert, maintaining safe speeds, and allowing extra stopping distance are crucial for preventing accidents in hazardous conditions.



OSHA emphasizes the importance of winter driving safety, requiring employers to implement hazard prevention measures. Workers operating vehicles in icy or snowy conditions must receive proper training, and vehicles should be inspected for winter readiness, including brakes, tires, and defrosters.

Key Winter Driving Regulation

General Duty Clause (OSHA 5(a)(1))

Employers must provide a safe working environment, including precautions for winter driving hazards. This includes vehicle maintenance, hazard training, and emergency preparedness to reduce risks associated with snow, ice, and low visibility conditions.



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ATTENDEES

Print Name:	Signature:

Additional Comments: