

Environmental Health & Safety

Safe Spot

Your university safety newsletter



Volume 1, Number 9, Jan 2018

www.unb.ca/ehs | (506) 453-5075 | safety@unb.ca

Safe Spot is a quarterly newsletter written and distributed by the Environmental Health and Safety Office

It snowed, now what (walking)?

Atlantic Canadian winters are often defined by beautiful white landscapes... cold, and many slippery surfaces. Please keep this front of mind when venturing out on foot this winter season. Seasonally appropriate clothing is perhaps most important, and while the prevention of a chill usually provides the impetus for winter jackets, please also keep your choice of footwear seasonally appropriate. Proper winter boots won't prevent every slip and fall, but will reduce the likelihood while offering ankle support.

Also, please immediately share information of slippery locations with co-workers, and, just as importantly, Facilities Management (453-4889, fm@unb.ca). If kept informed of problem areas, FM will act to address the issue promptly. If you do have the misfortune of a fall, please submit an accident report when you can ([online form](#)), and phone Security for assistance if required (453-4830).

Also, please pay attention to building roof lines and edges; snow and ice can often fall from these areas with great force.



WorkSafeNB offers a [page](#) covering this topic as well: "Winter-related slips, trips and falls have a significant impact on New Brunswick workplaces each year," said Richard Blais, Director of WorkSafeNB's Compliance and Regulatory Review. "To prevent these accidents, employers need to be extra vigilant and workers should take greater precaution in the months ahead."

Tips to Avoid Injury

To help avoid injury when walking on ice and snow, WorkSafeNB offers these tips:

- Walk slowly and deliberately, focused on the path ahead.
- Where possible, avoid slippery surfaces, such as wet leaves, icy areas and snow banks.
- Wear appropriate footwear with slip-resistant soles to work, and change into indoor footwear. Ice grippers that attach to your footwear can provide additional traction.
- Use handrails where available.
- Check to make sure entrance areas and stairs are clear of snow and slush. Tracked in snow and slush often causes slips and falls.
- Clean your shoes when you go inside. Caked snow and ice on shoe soles can be treacherous.
- Report all slips, trips and fall hazards and incidents to your employer.

It snowed, now what (driving)?

Driving in the winter months is an acquired skill, but one that is easily trumped by poor conditions. Please slow down and provide lots of space between you and everyone else.

Also, to allow for proper snow clearing operations, please ensure your vehicle is moved to prevent slippery patches and visibility concerns. Be mindful of ice/snow overhead that may fall when parked near buildings. [Map](#) and [Regulations](#) for Parking.



First Aid Refresher

Did you know that in order to keep your First Aid training compliant over the three years stated on your certificate/card you need to demonstrate 6 hours of practice each year?

Luckily, EHS offers a First Aid Refresher course to meet the criteria, and participation is free.

Contact Kim – 453-5075, safety@unb.ca







WHMIS Calls

Calls have been going out from several companies claiming affiliation to WorkSafeNB and that unless we register for their WHMIS courses, we will be out of compliance. This is not true, and if you receive such a call please contact me for more information.

Contact Andrew – 458-7961, afeicht1@unb.ca

Training Sessions:

-  Radiation Safety – By request
-  First Aid (2-day) – Register now
-  First Aid Refresher (1-day) – Register now
-  Fire Extinguisher Training – April

Waste Collections:

-  General Hazardous – May

For more information, or to register:

Contact Kim, 453-5075, safety@unb.ca

The Environmental Health and Safety Office is a resource available to the UNB Community.

Please never hesitate to seek help or advice.