



WINTER SAFETY

'Tis the season! Winter can bring frigid temperatures and slippery conditions around the truck. The key to protecting yourself is to recognize the hazards that can lead to winter-related injuries and illnesses and take proper precautions. The following information will help you better protect yourself in winter weather.

HAZARDS

ENVIRONMENT – Snow & ice around the truck can cause slips, trips and falls. Whiteout conditions, sun glare & shorter days can reduce visibility and can lead to injuries. Frigid temperatures are a danger when working out in the elements and can lead to frostbite and hypothermia.

EQUIPMENT – Malfunctioning equipment can lead to serious illnesses, such as carbon monoxide poisoning, colds, and flu. Similarly, inoperable defrosters and wiper blades reduce visibility and can lead to a crash.

PERSONAL BEHAVIORS – Poor planning and decision-making can lead to preventable winter-related injuries and illness, including failing to wear proper winter clothing and footwear. Hurrying and failing to use 3-point contact while climbing on the truck can also be hazardous.

DEFENSES

KNOW YOUR SURROUNDINGS – Be mindful of hazards like potholes, ice patches and uneven walking surfaces and watch your step. Avoid distracted walking around the truck & do not hurry.

PRE-TRIP INSPECTIONS – Ensure all equipment is functioning properly and clean off mirrors, reflectors & lights of snow and ice. Also, make sure the handrails and steps are cleaned off to prevent slips and falls.

PATIENCE & PLANNING – Monitor weather reports and communicate with Dispatch. Be sure to wear a winter coat, gloves & proper footwear when outside of the truck in cold temperatures, even if only for a short time. ALWAYS use 3-point contact, meaning both hands & one foot, or both feet, are always in contact with the truck and face the unit when climbing in or out. Monitor weather reports and communicate regularly with Dispatch. It is also a good idea to keep the following in the truck ...



... a shovel, windshield scraper, flashlight & batteries, food including energy bars, road salt/sand/or cat litter for traction, hand & foot warmers, extra hats, socks and mittens, first aid kit with pocket knife, blankets or sleeping bag, any necessary medications, booster cables, extra coolant/washer fluid/engine oil, flares and a whistle to attract attention.



I have read and understand the above information regarding "Winter Safety".

Signature

Date

We wish you and yours a wonderful & safe holiday and a happy new year!

