

MSAD 75 Safety Guideline – Winter Snow Removal & Safety

Issued: January 24, 2006
Reminder: December 4, 2007
Reminder: December 10, 2008

Revised: December 8, 2009 (R.1)
Reminder: December 7, 2010
Revised: January 13, 2011 (R.2)

Now that it appears winter has finally arrived it's important that we keep in mind everyone's safety during storms while our Custodians, Buildings & Grounds crew and Contractors are busy clearing the lots and walkways.

Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

- 1) NEVER drive behind a snow removal piece of equipment while it is in the process of snow plowing / removal. Keep a safe distance and avoid the immediate vicinity until the equipment has cleared the area.
- 2) During snow removal the roads will continue to be slippery until sand has been spread and the sun has melted the remaining snow cover on the road – Slow down and use extra caution.
- 3) When approaching the lots and entrances use extreme caution, slow down and watch for workers/pedestrians– Many times the snow removal crew will be manually shoveling side walks, entrances and tight corners.
- 4) High Snow Banks obscuring visibility - Especially at intersections - Please remind your staff that great caution must be exercised when entering and leaving parking lots and intersections - This is especially true after heavy storms and as the winter unfolds due to limited means of placing snow from the roadways and lots.
- 5) Stay clear of snow blowing operations – Don't assume you are seen by the operator – A sudden turn by the operator could put you in the direct path of the discharge shoot. Snow blowers are loud and many times the wind/snow blind the operators view.
- 6) If the storm has cleared and you find the surface has thawed and refrozen making conditions hazardous please report the condition immediately to your custodian and/or Buildings and Grounds.
- 7) Maine conditions are ever changing. Parking lots get cleared, we experience a thaw and then at night conditions refreeze making for hazardous walking conditions the next morning. Consider wearing stable, flat soled shoes with improved traction when you come to work and then change into your regular foot ware once you have arrived at your work location.
- 8) If you slip and fall report the incident immediately to your supervisor.
- 9) If you encounter a small area that is slippery and there is a receptacle of sand and/or salt in the immediate vicinity, please take a few minutes to treat the area – You could be preventing a serious injury. According to OSHA - Slips, trips and falls are the number one cause of injuries in the work place.

Thank you for your cooperation !

MSAD 75
Facilities Department