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Preventing Slips/Falls During Rainy Weather

by Eric Lucero

With the rainy season here, it can be challenging to keep floors dry. Below are tips to prevent slips and falls at your sites over the next few months.



Clean outdoor areas. Before a storm, clear entrances and sidewalks of leaves and debris that create extra slippery conditions when wet.

Install door mats. Mats are one of the most important tools to prevent slips and falls during rainy weather. Mats capture water and avoid dirt and mud from being tracked throughout the building. Water present beyond the mat indicates that it is either too short, or has become saturated. Consider having spare mats and develop a process to change mats as they become saturated or soiled.

Mop, mop, mop. On rainy days, mop entrances and hallways more frequently. Focus on the areas with the most foot traffic, and mop just before the busiest times of the day (e.g. before/after school, the workday or a large meeting).

Wet floor signs. There should be at least two wet floor signs for all non-carpeted entrances to ensure there is an adequate number of signs available to deploy during inclement weather. Additional signs may be needed for large spaces, such as a cafeteria, break room or meeting room and for incidental spills throughout the building.



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Place wet floor signs prominently so that anyone in the building will see them before walking on slippery surfaces. Depending on the location, this usually requires one sign for each side of the hazard. If a wet floor is near a blind corner, place the sign around the corner to warn others of the approaching hazard.

People may begin to ignore wet floor signs if used frivolously. Promptly remove signs after raining has stopped and floors re dry.

Slip-resistant footwear. There is a difference between athletic shoes and slip-resistant footwear. Unlike athletic shoes, slip-resistant footwear increases traction when used on wet flooring. Encourage staff to wear slip-resistant footwear at work.



Conclusion. Preventing slips and falls during the rainy season requires proactive effort. With just a few steps, you can reduce the risk of slips and falls at your sites. Please [contact us](#) with questions or for additional assistance.