

# MSHA WINTER ALERT

*Gear Up and Ride Safely This Winter!*

## Best Practices for Equipment and Vehicle Safety

- ✓ **Inspect and Winterize Equipment.** Check batteries, fuel lines, and brakes to ensure equipment is winter ready.
- ✓ **Clear Snow and Ice.** Keep windshields, mirrors, and lights free from snow and ice to improve visibility.
- ✓ **Test heaters and defrost systems.** Confirm proper functioning of equipment cab heating and defrosting systems for visibility and comfort.
- ✓ **Drive Cautiously.** Reduce speeds in icy or snowy conditions, maintain safe distances, and be vigilant of black ice on roads.

## Best Practices for Miner Preparedness

- ✓ **Clear walkways, ramps, and work areas regularly** to prevent slips, trips, and falls. Apply salt and sand where needed.
- ✓ **Use caution when accessing elevated work areas** in icy or wet conditions. Always maintain three points of contact when climbing ladders and equipment.
- ✓ **Wear Proper PPE for Cold Weather.** Use insulated gloves, boots, and layered clothing to protect against frostbite and hypothermia.
- ✓ **Monitor for Cold Stress.** Train miners to recognize symptoms of hypothermia, frostbite, and cold stress.
- ✓ **Provide Warm Shelter.** Create designated locations to allow miners to warm up during breaks and prevent cold weather-related injuries.



Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553  
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