

November 2021

Dear RETRO Members;

Wow, it is November already and we will soon be back to standard time! We encourage you to start preparing for shorter days by checking:

- check outdoor lighting making sure that light bulbs and photo eyes are operational. If on timers, you will need to adjust on 11/7
- be ready for potential slips and falls around the entrances to the store. Place extra floor mats on smooth surfaces to take up that additional water being tracked into the store.
- prepare for potential ice/snow with de-icing and shovels having them on hand now.



The weather has traditionally been kind of nasty this month, so think of what else you may need to provide a safe work environment for employees and a good shopping experience for your customers.

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**Ladder Safety** – Just how important is ladder safety? Well, ladders are one of the major causes of fall-related fatalities according to the National Safety Council's statistics. It is estimated that in any given year 65,000 individuals receive emergency room treatment due to ladder accidents. **Most ladder incidents happen at ten feet or less from the ground.** Other tips are:

- Remember to pick the right ladder for the project. Don't use an extension ladder for a step ladder project or vice versa.
- Make sure it is tall enough so that you do not go past the top two steps.
- Don't let your belt buckle go past the ladder rails. Leaning past the rails will put you in an off-balance position and prone to ladder shift.
- Check the ladder over to make sure all ladder parts are in good condition before using it.
- **Your ladders must be Type I, I-A or II.** Type III is for home use and not allowed for commercial use.



Resources:

- [RS Safety Library](#) - There is a PowerPoint, and handouts in the **Ladders** section.
- [RS SafetyTV](#) - Some good ladder videos that can help in your safety meeting.
- [SAFEME](#) - Has a [Ladder use module](#) which makes for a quick safety lesson.

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**Slip-Trip-Falls** – Slips, trips, and falls are among the most common workplace accidents. Employees and customers are put at risk for serious injury when slip, trip and fall hazards aren't noticed and fixed in parking lots, walkways, stairwells, and other work locations.

Fortunately, with proper training, housekeeping techniques, and encouraging a safety culture in the workplace, you can spot, report, and correct these hazards before someone gets hurt.



Avoid risky behavior at work and at home! Do you have sidewalk deicer on hand now?

Resources:

- [RS Safety Library](#) - There is a PowerPoint, and handouts in the **Slip Trip Falls** section
- [RS SafetyTV](#) - Some good videos on Slip Trip Falls which make a good safety meeting starter!
- [SAFEME](#) - Has a Slip Trip Falls [module](#)

Encourage your employees to; *Think safe. Act safe. Be safe.*

**Rick Means**

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