

TOOLBOX TALK for October 26th, 2026

Carpenter's Training -

Portland - 11/7 Rough Terrain Forklift. 11/14 MEWP.

Ontario - 11/14 First Aid. 11/21 Rough Terrain Forklift

Cold and Wet Weather Is Coming!

We've had a great fall so far, but it looks like the weather is about to change. Shorter days, colder temperatures, and plenty of rain bring new hazards both on the road and at the jobsite. Now's a good time to get ready.

Driving in the Dark and Rain

Getting to and from work safely is just as important as working safely on the job.

- **Check your wipers:** Worn-out windshield wipers make it tough to see, especially on dark, rainy mornings. Replacing them is cheap and easy.
- **Check your tires:** Make sure they're properly inflated and have plenty of tread. Good tires can make all the difference when you need to stop quickly on wet roads.
- **Check your lights:** Make sure your headlights, taillights, and brake lights work. You need to see where you're going, and other drivers need to see you.
- **Slow down:** Wet roads and poor visibility mean longer stopping distances. Give yourself extra time to get to work.

Poor Lighting and Slippery Jobsites

What worked during the bright summer months may not be enough now. Make sure walkways, entrances, exits, and work areas have adequate lighting. If you can't see where you're stepping or what you're working on, it's time to fix the lighting.

Rain and mud get tracked into buildings, creating slippery walkways. Watch your footing, keep access routes clear, and take care of slippery conditions before someone gets hurt.

Staying Warm and Dry

Working in cold, wet weather can take a toll on your body. A little preparation goes a long way.

- **Dress in layers:** Wear moisture-wicking clothing next to your skin, insulating layers for warmth, and a waterproof outer layer to keep the rain out.
- **Stay dry:** Wet clothing pulls heat away from your body. Keep backup dry clothes available.
- **Dress for the work:** If you're moving around a lot, you may need fewer layers. If you're standing still, you'll need more insulation.
- **Cover exposed skin:** Protect your hands, head, and other exposed areas from cold temperatures and wind.
- **Know the warning signs:** Extreme shivering, confusion, loss of coordination, or unusual drowsiness can be signs of dangerous cold exposure. Get somewhere warm and seek help immediately.

Be Ready for the Change

Winter weather seldom arrives all at once, but it's coming. Take a few minutes now to check your vehicle, prepare your cold-weather gear, and look for changing conditions on the jobsite.

A little preparation today can prevent an injury tomorrow. Stay warm, stay dry, and stay safe!

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