

OCTOBER 2011 OHIO COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION SAFETY REPORT

Slips, trips and falls are a significant cause of injuries both at work and away. . This should alert you to the importance of recognizing hazards that can cause slips, trips, and falls and the value of establishing programs to inspect and correct the hazards.

Common Causes of Slips

- Spills causing wet surfaces
- Weather-related surface conditions
- Shoe soles not compatible with floor surfaces
- Incomplete floor cleaning
- Debris collecting on walking surfaces
- Non-uniform floor surface
- Carpeting or mats not secured
- Transitional areas such as doorways and ramps

Common Causes of Trips

- Hoses and cables on floor
- Uneven walking surfaces
- Debris allowed to collect in walkways
- Inadequate walkway lighting
- Obstructed view of walkway
- Wrinkled or unsecured carpeting or mats



Common Causes of Falls

- Faulty ladders
- Improper ladder use
- Wrong ladder for the job
- Using makeshift ladders such as chairs or boxes
- Not using stair handrails when taking the stairs
- Ramps, docks and floor holes
- Getting out of vehicles

Preventing Slips

- Clean up spills quickly and block off wet areas
- Have walk-off mats and a snow-removal program
- Urge employees to maintain good shoe soles
- Rinse floor detergents and dry the floor
- Keep debris cleaned from walkways
- Smooth out floor areas where necessary
- Tape or otherwise secure floor coverings
- Mark ramps so the slope is apparent

Preventing Trips

- Run hoses and cables through walkover devices or overhead
- Repair and mark floor areas that may be uneven
- Good housekeeping can keep debris under control
- Keep walkways clear of intrusions that may obstruct activity
- Secure floor coverings to prevent wrinkling

Preventing Falls

- ◇ Prior to climbing, inspect ladders
- ◇ Set the feet on a stable surface and use the proper lean angle
- ◇ Select a ladder that fits the job at hand
- ◇ Never stand on a chair
- ◇ Use the handrail when taking the stairs
- ◇ Mark ramps, docks and holes so they are highly visible
- Use vehicle grip bars or handles to get in and out of vehicles