**Toolbox Talk Be Prepared For Rainy, Wintry Driving**



Vehicle crashes can be a top cause of workplace accidents. We encourage employees to prepare for the changing seasons. Vehicles need to be prepared in advance and drivers must be ready to adjust speed or change a route based on the weather, especially when major weather patterns threaten.

Below are recommended steps to ensure your vehicle is ready for the changing seasons:

* Ensure the heater and defroster are working properly.
* Test all lights and carry spare light bulbs.
* Use antifreeze that’s good to -25°F; check all fluids, and make sure hoses aren’t loose or brittle.
* Keep wipers clean and in good condition; fill the windshield washer tank.
* Make certain your battery is fully charged, and check battery age and cable conditions.
* Ensure your tires are in good condition and properly inflated for best traction.
* Keep an automotive safety kit in your vehicle.

If you are driving in areas experiencing heavy rain or windy conditions, adjust your driving to fit conditions. Simple actions such as turning off your cruise control, staying alert for downed trees, and taking caution around a blind corner can prevent accidents and injuries. Also, if you lose traction and your vehicle feels like it’s floating, gradually slow down– avoid the urge to slam on the brakes.



**Remember, you are your car's best safety feature. Take precautions to ensure you arrive safely at your destination!**