Winter Weather Safety - Employee Questionnaire

Statistics show that many of the worst workplace injuries occur during the winter months, whether it is broken bones from slips and falls, strains and sprains while shoveling, or motor vehicle accidents due to snow and ice. Many of these accidents are preventable by properly preparing for the winter months, providing education on this topic to our employees, and working closely with employees to address their specific winter weather safety concerns. **Seeking input from our employees is one of the most valuable hazard identification tools we have!**

The following questionnaire may be used *before* the winter season and on a routine basis *throughout* the winter season with the intention of **learning from our employees and improving our safety system.** We need your honest feedback in order to generate continuous improvements that will make our workplace safer. Thank you for your time in completing this questionnaire.

1. Recall last winter or most recent winter event, is there anything that stands out related to snow and ice removal that could be improved upon this year?

2. Think about when you arrive at work, and when you leave for the day; is the snow and ice removal in the parking lot, walkways, and entrances adequate? Can you suggest any areas for improvement?

3. Employees may go outside to take out the garbage, travel between buildings, retrieve materials, go to their car, take a break, etc. Are there any snow or ice concerns related to these activities? Are there adequate salt supplies for all areas?

4. If you are expected to perform snow removal tasks, have you been provided with the proper education, tools, equipment, and clothing (high-visibility vests, boots, traction devices, warm clothing, etc.) to do so? If not, what do you think could help you?

5. If you're tasked with driving during the winter months, do you feel you and your vehicle are adequately prepared to drive in inclement weather (remember that you should have a vehicle safety kit in your vehicle)? How can winter driving be improved?

6. Where do you think the next winter weather-related accident will occur? Can you suggest any other areas of improvement related to winter weather hazards?