Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention Strategies

Keep floors clean and dry
- Encourage workers to clean up, cover and/or report floor contaminants promptly.
- Install wall-mounted spill pads or paper towel holders conveniently throughout the facility to provide easy access to cleaning materials.
- Advertise the phone/pager numbers to call for housekeeping through emails, posters and general awareness campaigns.
- Install wall-mounted wet floor signs throughout the facility to provide easy access to products to cover/identify a spill.
- Provide walk-off mats, paper towel holders, trashcans and umbrella bags near entrances to minimize wet floors.
- Provide cups, paper towel holders and trashcans (waste bins) near water fountains.
- Place water-absorbent walk-off mats with beveled edges at facility entrances. The mats should be large enough for multiple steps to fall on the mat and wide enough to cover the entire doorway. Ideally, the soles of shoes should not be depositing ice or water on the floor when they step off the mat. Consider use of these mats in areas where employees may be continually exposed to wet conditions. If the mats become saturated during the day, replace them with dry mats.
- Use appropriate methods for cleaning and degreasing kitchen floors; choose appropriate cleaning product for the conditions; mix cleaning products according to manufacturer’s directions.
- Redirect drains away from walkways with high pedestrian traffic.
- Check that pipes are correctly aligned with the drain they are emptying into.
- Unclog drains, particularly in kitchens, regularly.

Prevent entry into areas that are contaminated
- Use barrier signs that block off areas (tension rod with hanging sign across doorways, tall cones with chains, hallway barriers).
- Install pop-up tent-style warning signs in wall-mounted tubes in easy accessible locations.
- Use taller, more noticeable slip/trip signage (48’ tall wet floor signs, flashing lights on top of signs, pop-up tent style signs).
- Promptly remove wet floor signs after the floor is dry to avoid habituation.
- Completely block off area during floor waxing or stripping; place door-stopper barrier to prevent wax from overflowing into adjacent areas during waxing.

Use slip-resistant shoes
- Implement a voluntary slip-resistant shoe program for food service workers and housekeeping staff, and included ice cleats for those individuals who work or walk outside during winter weather.

Keep walkways clear of objects and reduce clutter

Provide adequate lighting in all work areas including outdoor stairwells and parking garages

Secure loose cords, wires and tubing
- Use cord bundlers and cord containers to secure cords under desks and computers and around all equipment.
Our safety evaluations, reports and recommendations are made solely to assist your organization in reducing hazards and the potential of hazards and accidents. These recommendations were developed from conditions observed and information provided at the time of our visit. They do not attempt to identify every possible loss potential, hazard or risk, nor do they guarantee that workplace accidents will be prevented. These safety evaluations, reports and recommendations are not a substitute for ongoing, well-researched internal safety and risk management programs. This report does not warrant that the property inspected and its operations are compliant with any law, rule or regulation.

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- Cover cords on floor with a beveled protective cover.
- Consider retractable cord holders on phones.

**Eliminate outdoor surface irregularities**
- Consider eliminating wheel-stops in parking areas.
- Patch, fill or slope cracks, holes or changes in level in walkways and parking areas that are greater than 0.5’.
- Create visual cues; highlight changes in curb or walkway elevation with yellow warning paint.

**Eliminate indoor surface irregularities**
- Replace or re-stretch loose or buckled carpeting.
- Replace mats that are curled or ripped; secure edges with carpet tape.
- Remove, patch underneath and replace indented or blistered tile.
- Consider replacing smooth flooring materials with rougher surfaces with a higher coefficient of friction.
- Patch or fill cracks in walkways that are greater than 0.25’.
- Highlight changes in curb or walkway elevation with yellow warning paint.

**Check stairs**
- Ensure stairs and handrails are in compliance with safety codes and recommendations.
- Highlight the nosing of each step with contrasting paint or strips.

**Prepare for ice and snow**
- Provide ice cleats (or similar product) for employees who work or walk extensively outdoors and maintenance workers to put over regular shoes.
- Distribute winter weather email warnings to all workers with email access.
- Provide bins that anyone can use to spread ice melting chemicals on icy patches outside.

**General awareness campaign**
- Phone and pager numbers for maintenance and housekeeping departments prominently displayed and emailed intermittently to staff, to be used for reporting spills, slippery conditions, ice and other slip/trip/fall hazards.
- Establish a slip/trip/fall hazard awareness campaigns that are promoted through health fairs, posters, paycheck inserts and emails.