Is your business winter-ready?

Whether your business clears the snow or hires someone to do it, you are responsible for the safety of others. Following a complete winter maintenance plan can reduce the risk of slip and fall hazards and property damage from over salting. Consider including these actions as part of your winter maintenance plan:

- Prevent ice from forming
  Stop stormwater and melted snow from freezing across paved areas. A rainy day is the perfect time to watch the water running on your property to understand how stormwater pools and drains.

- Stop snow from drifting on to paved areas
  Landscaping or snow fences can help keep drifting snow off paved areas and reduce icy areas from forming due to wind. Consider wind direction and elevation changes when choosing locations.

- Close areas instead of salting
  Reduce your risk from potential slip and fall hazards by closing areas not needed in the winter.

- Fix leaky eaves troughs and keep eaves troughs and storm drains clear

- Redirect downspouts away from walkways and parking lots

- Locate your snow pile on the lower section of the property near a storm drain

- Close overflow parking

- Close extra stairs

- Close extra walkways

- Close outdoor patios

- Clean up spilled and excess salt
  Store salt in a water resistant closed container and clean up spilled and excess applied salt to save for another time. Display reminders near storage bins to encourage the responsible use of salt.

- Promote winter safety
  Display health and safety messaging on signs or doors to caution staff and visitors of slippery areas.

- Repair pavement
  Fix potholes and dips to allow for complete removal of snow and ice and reduce areas of water ponding.

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