

October 2024

Tips to Stay Safe this Fall Season

The fall season and the month of October bring about numerous reminders for keeping you, your work teams, and your loved ones safe. October being Fire Prevention Month, the Halloween holiday, and changes in weather affecting road conditions, are all top of mind as we change into the fall season. It's a good idea to go over these tips at the beginning of the season and remind each other of potential threats to our overall safety.

Fire Prevention Month

- **Install** — Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, such as a hallway, and on each level of the house, including the basement.
- **Test** — Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- **Replace** — Replace all smoke alarms after 10 years, or if they stop responding to a test. Replace batteries every year.
- **Plan** — Make a Home Fire Escape Plan and practice the plan with all members in your home. Practice twice a year, during the day and the night.
- **At work** — Make sure you know key details of what to do when you are at work in case of a fire, such as the alarm and where you should go.

Information provided by NFPA.org

Trick-or-Treat Safety

- Always stay with young children, especially when trick-or-treat times are during the dark.
- Plan and review older children's routes when trick-or-treating without an adult. Agree on a specific time that they should return home.
- Refrain from distracted walking. Stay off your phone (texting & talking) and don't listen to loud music that prevents you from hearing your surroundings.
- Don't assume vehicles will stop. Stay alert, as motorists have trouble seeing trick-or-treaters.
- Use sidewalks and crosswalks. Stay with a group.

Information provided by healthychildren.org

Fall Road Conditions

- Windshield wipers & fog lights — Replace worn out blades that struggle to clear water efficiently. Utilize your fog lights when fog is thick enough that high-beam headlights bounce off instead of illuminate ahead.
- Check for wet leaves & morning frost — maintain a safe distance from the vehicle ahead to provide enough reaction time for breaking. Avoid sudden movements, like quick turns and abrupt braking, which can cause skidding on slick leaf-covered surfaces or ice.
- Deer movement — the fall season and harvest bring about more movement among the deer population. Stay alert, especially near wooded regions.
- Sun glare — Sun glare can become particularly troublesome on cold fall morning when you're commuting against the rising sun. Use sunglasses, your vehicle's visor, and make sure your windshield is clear.

Information provided by driveteam.com