Winter Driving Safety Tips

Vehicle Maintenance:
• Ensure all vehicles are serviced and in top condition. This includes checking the battery, brakes, tires, and windshield wipers.
• Equip vehicles with winter tires or ensure current tires have adequate tread for traction on snowy and icy roads.
• Keep emergency supplies in the vehicle, such as blankets, a first-aid kit, flashlight, and non-perishable food items.

Plan Ahead:
• Monitor weather conditions and plan routes accordingly to avoid areas with severe weather warnings.
• Encourage employees to familiarize themselves with their route and have alternate routes planned in case of road closures or dangerous conditions.
•Wear proper footwear and be cautious when entering or exiting your vehicle and maneuvering walkways.

Speed and Distance:
• Reduce driving speed to accommodate for decreased traction on snow and ice.
• Increase following distance to allow for longer stopping distances on slippery roads.

Visibility:
• Keep headlights on at all times to increase visibility to other drivers.
• Clear all ice and snow from windows, mirrors, and lights before driving to ensure maximum visibility.

Smooth Maneuvers:
• Avoid sudden movements such as quick acceleration, braking, and sharp turns which can cause skidding.
• Use gentle, steady pressure on the brakes and accelerator.

Winter Driving Courses:
• Provide employees with winter driving training that covers the specific challenges of driving in adverse conditions.
• Offer defensive driving courses to enhance overall driving skills.

Regular Safety Meetings:
• Conduct regular safety meetings to discuss winter driving safety tips and remind employees of best practices.
• Encourage open communication where employees can share their experiences and tips for safe driving in winter conditions.

What to Do in an Emergency:
• Train employees on what to do if they get stranded or encounter an emergency. This includes staying in the vehicle, using emergency supplies, and calling for help.
• Ensure all employees have access to emergency contact numbers and know the protocol for reporting accidents or incidents.

Emergency Communication:
• Equip vehicles with communication tools such as cell phones or two-way radios to keep in contact during long drives or in remote areas.
• Implement a check-in system where employees regularly update their status during trips.

Policy Enforcement:
• Enforce strict policies regarding winter driving safety and ensure all employees are aware of and adhere to these policies.
• Review and update safety policies regularly to address any new challenges or changes in procedures.

Support and Resources:
• Provide employees with resources and support to ensure their safety. This includes access to maintenance services, emergency kits, and training programs.