

Please sign in on back, and submit to Luke Jackson in HR



September 2019 Safety Talk

Slips, trips, and falls are among the most common causes of workplace injuries. Good housekeeping practices are essential in the workplace and reduce the potential for slip, trip and fall incidents. *Short-term hazards due to maintenance, repair or housekeeping should be marked with cautionary floor stands or signs, barricade tape, warning posts and/or chains.*

- **Walking/working surfaces** are any horizontal or vertical surface on or through which an employee walks, works, or gains access to a work area or workplace location.
- **Slips** occur when there is too little friction or traction between your feet (footwear) and the walking or working surface, and you lose your balance.
- **Trips** occur when your foot (or lower leg) hits an object and your upper body continues moving, throwing you off balance.

To prevent slips and trips ensure all walking and working surfaces are free from hazards such as:

- Loose boards
- Uneven floors
- Unmarked level changes (i.e. curbs, edge of sidewalks)
- Extension cords or other cables
- Leaks and spills
- Protruding objects such as nails
- Holes
- Trash, boxes or containers
- Loose mats or rugs
- Miscellaneous equipment
- Slippery surfaces
- Poor lighting in the area
- Open drawers & cabinets

If repair or maintenance is required to remove the identified slip, trip or fall hazard, and the fix cannot be made immediately, the hazard must be guarded to prevent employees from using the walking-working surface until the hazard is corrected or repaired.

***For any follow up questions or concerns, please contact Luke Jackson in Human Resources at: Ljackson@coloradomesa.edu