

## Icy Mornings, Icy Days

During this time of year even recycling operations in warmer climates can have some frosty mornings. When the temperature drops below freezing, a slippery film of ice can form on almost anything. Every year scrap workers are injured when they slip and fall on icy surfaces. The most common falls involve drivers getting in and out of vehicles, workers walking along the frozen metal surface of the scale, and people slipping on frozen mud and ice.

The best way to prevent slipping and falling is to assume that the work surface is slippery. Here's how you can do your part in creating a safer workplace:

- If you are the first one across the yard or the parking lot in the morning, identify slippery areas and report icy spots to management before co-workers or customers fall on them.
- If available, throw down rock salt, sand, or cat litter to melt the ice and create more traction.
- If you drive a piece of equipment, inspect access ladders and non-slip mats. If these are worn or broken, report it so they can be fixed.
- Eliminate other trip hazards by picking up trash and debris that you or other co-workers could fall on.

If you work in a northern climate where it stays cold all day long, make sure to be on the look out for slippery areas all day long. Winter sunlight and running equipment can melt ice which will refreeze later in the day. You may need to re-apply sand and salt throughout the day.

This e-mail was produced by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. For more information, visit us on the Web at [www.ISRI.org](http://www.ISRI.org)  
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