



Working in the Cold

Cold temperatures pose serious threats to a person's health, leading to frostbite, hypothermia, or trench foot, which occurs when the feet have been exposed to water for too long. Symptoms of hypothermia may include lack of coordination, confusion, slurring, drowsiness, or slowed breathing. Signs of frostbite and trench foot include skin that is numb, swollen, firm, blistered, red, or gray.

You and/or your employee(s) can use this form to complete safety checks on your farm. Use the form below to list additional safety checks you think are important when inspecting your farm. Keep the completed forms for follow-up, future reference and inspections. Additional copies of this form can be downloaded at: http://umash.umn.edu/umash-farm-safety-check/

Disclaimer: Don't forget to wear a mask and follow all social distancing practices in the applicable situations below.

Potential Hazard	Yes	Needs	Date Corrected
	163	Correction	or Notes
Can you complete indoor tasks and leave outdoor tasks		П	
for a warmer day?			
Do you prioritize safety? Add more breaks, keep areas			
warm, provide warm food and drink, periodically check			
on employees, and train employees about the cold.			
Snow makes it difficult to see roads and bodies of			
water. Do bright signs or fences mark roads and water?			
Do you have heating systems to keep employees and			
livestock warm? Are they safe from fires and in			
well-ventilated areas?			
Does everyone work in pairs?			
Compared to warmer days, is there a higher ratio of			
people to tasks, with fewer tasks and more employees?			
Does work begin earlier to avoid being outside at night?			
Do you use sand, litter or deicer on slippery areas?			
These may be less effective as it gets colder.	Ш		
Do you wear the following when you go out in the cold?			
Layers (inner: polyester or polypropylene, middle: wool			
or down, outer: water-resistant nyon), hat with flaps,			
hood, flexible gloves (inner layer and water-resistant			
outer layer), facemask, boots (not steel-toed) with cleats			
or slip-on grips, socks with breathing room in boots, and			
sunglasses.			
Do you immediately remove and replace anything wet?			
Do you carry a safety toolbox with the following items?			
Headlamp, flashlight, two-way radio, first aid kit, pocket	П		
knife, thermometer, dry pair of clothes, blanket,	Ш		
high-protein snacks, and a sweet, warm beverage.			
Name of person completing safety check: Date completed://			

SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



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Additional Hazards	Yes	Needs Correction	Date Corrected or Notes

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

How to find free winter coats and clothes

Need Help Paying Bills

Posters for the workplace: Symptoms of Frostbite and Hypothermia (English | Spanish)

English: CDC

Spanish: Camping El Cares

Pocket-sized cards for employees: Protecting Workers from Cold Stress (English | Spanish)

OSHA

Chart for the workplace: When and how long to take breaks over a 4-hour shift given the temperature and

wind speed

OSHA

Training for employees: <u>Hypothermia, frostbite, and Trench Foot for Trainers and Supervisors</u>

Ohio State University Extension

More information about building a first aid kit

Ready.gov

The facts and information provided are suggestions for your safety, but are in no way a comprehensive and exhaustive list of all actions needed to ensure your safety, and are not an endorsement of any products mentioned.

For additional Farm Safety Check topics and resources, visit: http://umash.umn.edu/umash-farm-safety-check/

To receive Farm Safety Check topics via email, join the UMASH email list at http://umash.umn.edu/join-our-email-list