



About the National Safety Council

The National Safety Council saves lives by preventing injuries and deaths at work, in homes and communities, and on the roads through leadership, research, education and advocacy. Visit us at nsc.org for up-to-date industry news, information and tools to take your safety program to the next level.



NSC Safety Awards

Participation in the NSC Awards Program is the safe decision for your employees and the smart decision for your bottom line.

Safety awards from NSC instill employee pride; earn respect from your customers, community and peers; and place you one step ahead of your competition. [Learn more.](#)



Download this month's featured [powerpoint](#) presentation



"Know the facts about backs"

Welcome to *Spotlight on Safety*, an e-newsletter brought to you by the Department of the Interior Office of Occupational Safety and Health in partnership with the National Safety Council. We hope you will find this service of value. Send feedback or ideas on topics you would like to see to membershipinfo@nsc.org. Please put "Department of the Interior feedback" in the subject line.

There is a "lot" to know about parking lot safety



Chances are likely that you will be maneuvering through a parking lot during the course of daily life. It is important to be aware of the hidden dangers of parking lots, and keep yourself safe. While walking to and from vehicles in a parking lot, workers should help prevent slips and falls by looking for broken pavement and

grating, as well as leaks and spills from engine oil or antifreeze. The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety in Hamilton, Ontario recommends employers do their part to keep parking lots safe by:

- Supplying good lighting
- Maintaining even and undamaged walking surfaces
- Cleaning oil spills immediately, or marking oily spots or wet areas
- Practicing good housekeeping
- Clearing clutter, debris or any obstacles from walkways
- Removing ice and snow as soon as possible
- Letting employees know to report any parking lot hazards to a supervisor

Personal safety is equally important. The National Safety Council offers these tips to help keep yourself safe while in parking lots:

- Always park your vehicle in a well-lit area
- Avoid secluded sections, especially at night
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Familiarize yourself with the lot and remember where you parked
- When approaching your vehicle, have your keys in hand
- Before getting in, check under your car and in the back seat to make sure that no one is there
- Keep your windows rolled up, your doors locked and the front and back seat free of shopping bags and valuables
- If you do not feel safe, look for a trusted person - such as a security guard - to walk you to your car

Use these tips and stay alert to help keep your travels to and from your car incident-free.

Minimize the risk of electrical fires

Electrical fires were involved in an estimated 46,500 reported home structure fires in 2010. These fires resulted in 420 civilian deaths and 1,520 injuries, with \$1.5 billion in direct property damage.



An electrical fire is a fire involving some type of electrical failure or malfunction.

Almost half (49%) of home-structure electrical fires involve some type of electrical distribution equipment (such as wiring, outlets, switches, lamps, light bulbs, cords, or plugs). The electrical distribution equipment provided the heat, leading to ignition. For example, a hot light bulb might have been too close to something that can catch fire.

Learn more about the hazards of electricity and tips to prevent electrical fires [here](#).

Featured poster - "Wait for the Green"

Celebrate the Council's 100 years of safety with our vintage poster series.



This month's feature is "[Wait for the Green](#)"
Now available for download