

Newsletter

Spotlight on Safety

National Safety Council

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In This Issue

[Fall driving hazards](#)

[Tips for cold and flu season](#)

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.](#)



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.

Fall Driving Hazards



The fall months bring road hazards ranging from wildlife and piles of wet leaves to tractors harvesting crops. Some events that contribute to road hazards in the fall season include:

Wildlife: The Department of Transportation warns that approximately 200 people die each year from motor vehicle collisions with deer. A 2008 study conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety found that motor vehicle collisions with a deer are 3 times more likely to happen in November than in the spring. A few tips from various transportation departments include:

- Slow down and prepare to stop as soon as you see a deer.
- When you see a deer, watch for more. Deer frequently travel in groups.
- Deer-vehicle crashes typically occur between 6 p.m. and midnight.

Harvest time: Another seasonal occurrence during the fall is the presence of tractors or other farm vehicles on rural roadways. Transportation safety experts say speed is often a factor in collisions between farm equipment and motor vehicles. Motorists should:

- Drive the speed limit.
- Be prepared to slow down when approaching farm equipment.
- Share the road by allowing enough time to safely pass farm vehicles. ?

Wet leaves: When leaves pile up and become wet, they can potentially cause your vehicle to hydroplane. Hydroplaning occurs when the tires of your car lose contact with the road and rise up on water between the tires and road or, in some cases, on wet leaves. Hydroplaning is more likely to occur with half an inch of rain water or more on the road surface.

Cold and flu season



It is estimated that 1 billion colds are caught annually in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 5 to 20 percent of the U.S. population fall ill from the flu annually as well. The flu season in the United States typically ranges from November to April. While it is a myth that cold temperatures cause colds, it is true that cold weather keeps people indoors, making exposure more likely.

Here are some [tips](#) to help you avoid colds and the flu.

