**Safe Work Practice** Snow Plowing

| **Department/Area:** | **Approved by:** | **Date Created:** | **Review/Revision Date:** |
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| insert text here |  |  |  |

| **Potential Hazard** | **Risk level** |
| --- | --- |
| Awkward/sustained postures - bend, reach, lift |  |
| Forceful exertions - lifting |  |
| Repetitive movements |  |
| Vibration |  |
| Compression |  |
| Sharp points/edges - sharp materials |  |
| Pinch points - bin lids |  |
| Materials falling - bin lids |  |
| Surfaces causing falls - icy, snow in winter |  |
| Moving machinery |  |
| Chemicals |  |
| Biological pathogens - contact with waste |  |
| Electrical |  |
| Extreme heat/cold |  |
| Noise |  |
| Combustibles/flammables |  |
| Risk of falling |  |
| Other |  |

| **Risk control devices, personal protective equipment, and other safety considerations** | **Training/Reference info** |
| --- | --- |
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* **DO** ensure you are well rested, physically, and mentally before starting work.
* **DO** wear appropriate clothing for the conditions.
* **DO** Check all equipment prior to use:
	+ Inspect lights, brakes, windshield wipers, defroster, plow bolts and chains, spreader and auger, flares, and other safety equipment.
* **DO** know your route. Before storm season, drive the route to identify any possible hazards. (Guard rails, curbs, railroad tracks, bridge joints, mailboxes, manhole covers, etc.)
* **DO** choose the speed appropriate for the conditions. Resist the urge to get the job done quickly and focus on doing it safely.
* **DO** be considerate of motorists having trouble driving in the snow. Stay calm and be patient when vehicles pass or tailgate.
* **DO** be brief when using the radio. Report stranded motorists and other emergencies when possible.
* **DO** observe all traffic laws and signal your intentions clearly. Always wear your seatbelt.
* **DO** before leaving the cab, set the brakes and disengage the power to the spreader and snowplows.
* **DO** take measures to ensure you do not get locked out of your vehicle. Carry a spare key on your person at all times.
* **DO** watch for signs of fatigue. Plowing often consists of long hours and can be stressful. If you feel yourself getting tired, take a break.
* **DO** ensure you always have an adequate means of communication in case of emergencies.