

Environmental Health & Safety

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Wet Weather Safety Tips

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On rainy days it is very important to be aware of the conditions while walking, driving and biking. Being aware of your surroundings and conditions on your path of travel will help you avoid mishaps and possible injury. Safety precautions to consider include the following:

When Walking:

- Wear shoes with good traction. Avoid high heels.
- Maintain a reasonably slow walking pace and don't turn sharply.
- Focus on your path of travel to identify and avoid potential slip and fall hazards.
- Keep your hands free as much as possible to assist you in maintaining your balance.
- Walk on designated pathways. Avoid shortcuts, as they may be slippery.
- When using stairways, hold onto the handrail.
- When entering buildings, wipe your shoes on doormat to avoid tracking water into building.
- If doormats are soaked, inform the building manager.
- If you spot a building area that is slippery, contact Facilities Management x8300.

When Driving:

- Turn on your headlights – you will see better and increase your visibility to others.
- Reduce your speed – it takes longer to stop in wet weather.
- Increase your following distance and watch for brake lights ahead.
- When driving on the freeway, drive in the center lanes as water tends to pool in the outside lanes.
- Avoid use of cruise control on rainy or slick surfaces; cruise control can increase the chance of hydroplaning.

When Biking:

- Reduce your speed and increase following distance during wet conditions.
- Avoid puddles, sand, and oily surfaces where possible.
- Be highly visible. Use bike lights and wear high-visibility clothing.
- Avoid texting or other use of cell phones.
- Keep both hands on the handlebars at all times.

If You See Something, Say Something!

Contact the office of Environmental Health and Safety at (805) 893-4447 if you have any questions.
