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The Iowa-Illinois Safety Council is 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

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Holiday Office Closings

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

The IISC office will be closed on the following days this upcoming holiday season:

Monday, December 17, 2018 (Staff party)
Monday-Tuesday, December 24-25, 2018 (Christmas)
Tuesday, January 1, 2019 (New Years)

We hope you have a safe and happy holiday!

A Message From the Executive Director

This month we continue with another message from our Director of Membership, Nancy Hankinson!

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What's Your Safety Message?

Most employers know that there is a lot at stake when it comes to safety. We all want our employees to arrive safe and sound to work, and most certainly leave the same way. But that's easier said than done, right?

As a member of the Iowa-Illinois Safety Council, you have sent a clear signal to your employees and the community that you take safety seriously. If you have attended or hosted of one of our safety training classes--- from the basic to the advanced--- then you are on the right path to an effective safety program for your organization.
And if you have participated in our annual Professional Development Conference (PDC), then you're in the playing with the big dogs and on the road to making your organization a safety leader. Your organization is clearly committed to safety, but we all know it doesn't end there.

Consider becoming an IISC Executive Sponsor. As an Executive Sponsor, your organization will support IISC's safety training programing and community outreach efforts. Our annual Professional Development Conference is a carefully curated collection of the best regional and national safety experts and vendors available. All of our events -- PDC, Networking Breakfasts, Lunch and Learns, and Safety Round Tables -- are a direct result of listening to our members and delivering much needed high quality programming. As a safety leader, why not consider playing a bigger role in the safety landscape of Iowa and Illinois?

Executive Sponsorships start at $500.00 and depending on your level of participation, you may be eligible for complimentary attendance to the PDC, advertising space in our PDC program, and exhibitor booth space as well. Regardless of your pledge, your organization's logo will be recognized on our Donor Wall in our training room and continuous posting on our website and electronic communications for one year.

So raise your safety profile! Send that safety message to your employees AND your community by becoming an Executive Sponsor of Iowa-Illinois Safety Council. I will be contacting many of you directly to ask for your support and there's also an option to go directly to our website and make a pledge today.

I look forward to speaking to you soon!

Nancy Hankinson
Iowa-Illinois Safety Council
Director of Membership

$ave on On-Site Training

Fall is here and before we know it we will be entering the holiday season. As always, the Iowa-Illinois Safety Council feels it is important that we all are vigilant of safety at work, home, and in our communities especially as the season turn.

As part of the upcoming season of giving, the Iowa-Illinois Safety Council would like to offer a special deal to help you with your safety needs.

The Iowa-Illinois Safety Council will be offering a 20% discount off of all newly scheduled onsite training, excluding travel expenses, for any on-site scheduled between November 12, 2018 and March 31, 2019*.

Let us help you with your onsite needs. Click here for a list of courses available. Don't see something listed? Ask us - we might be able to help!

Please contact Dan at IISC if you have any questions or to schedule.

Dan Culbertson
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It's finally here. Cold weather and slick driving conditions are back again. It's part of living in the Mid-west. But, we know what we're potentially facing and have the ability to prepare ourselves.

Most of us have been in an incident or near miss due to slick conditions, but the magnitude of the problem is what's concerning. 40,000 people lost their lives in 2017. That's more than 100 a day! This is preventable.

There are several things we can do to better prepare ourselves before commuting during slick conditions:

**Check the weather before we leave**
- Knowing what the weather conditions are and the conditions of the roadways is crucial. Planning the safest route and allowing enough time to get to our destination is critical when traveling in these conditions.

**Prepare your car**
- Keeping your car well maintained and properly equipped with cold weather supplies such as:
  - Spare Tire
  - Shovel
  - Jumper Cables
  - Tow Chains
  - Salt/Cat Litter
  - Tool Kit
  - Flashlight and Batteries
  - Reflective Gear
  - Compass
  - First Aid Kit
  - Windshield Washer Fluid
  - Ice Scraper
  - Lighter/Matched Sealed in Ziplock Bag
  - Scissors/Knife and String
  - Granola Bars and Water
  - Blankets/Cold Weather Gear

Most importantly, **drive defensively**. Eliminate all distractions; Cell Phone, radio, etc. Remember, there are always less experienced drivers on the road, so keep your distance and allow yourself...
It's a fact of our times: Employees are in a hurry to keep up with their workload. This attitude can cause big problems on the road, and big problems in parking lots, too. Leaving a parking spot may appear to be a no-brainer activity, but EMC Engineer Kody Daniel is here to tell you differently.

"A study done a few years ago by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety found that about 14% of vehicle collisions that result in damage happen in parking lots," he says. While he admits that back-up cameras have most likely reduced the number of accidents in parking lots, he adds that technology alone can't keep you safe. Kody has several suggestions for making your parking lot time accident-free.

1. **Use both technology and old-fashioned techniques to stay aware of your surroundings.** "Back-up cameras are a huge improvement over simply using mirrors and looking back at where you are heading," he says. However, he also notes that cameras are not 100% effective and it's not wise to rely solely on technology. "You still have to use the old-fashioned measures of checking your mirrors and turning your head to look behind and beside your vehicle," he warns. And of course, if your vehicle does not have a camera, you will need to rely on your mirrors and eyes to keep you safe.

2. **If the parking lot offers the ability to pull through when parking in straight-in spots, do it.** It's far easier to check for dangers in front of you as opposed to behind you.

3. **Park in the easiest to enter, easiest to leave spot.** This might be at the far end of the parking lot, but you'll generally have fewer vehicles parked in the area, fewer pedestrians walking behind you and fewer vehicles driving behind your vehicle. Bonus: You'll end up walking a bit farther to your destination, giving you a chance to stretch your legs and get much-needed exercise.

4. **When you get ready to leave the lot, survey the area looking for driveways, pedestrians, walkways or any other obstructions that may block your view.** And if you are in a location with low visibility and you have a passenger, ask the
5. **Stay focused while driving in the parking lot.** While most drivers are well aware of the dangers of distracted driving, we may not consider parking lots to be a danger zone. It's easy to rationalize that you're not moving fast enough to be in danger (or to be a danger). However, being distracted in a parking lot can be every bit as dangerous as on-the-road distractions. "Many of us forget the training we've had about continually scanning mirrors and focusing on the task at hand, such as backing out of a parking spot or watching for other vehicles who may be backing out in our path," Kody says.

**More from EMC**
- Safety Brief: [Preventing Backing Collisions](https://www.emc.com/experience/safetybrief/preventing-backing-collisions)

**Resource: EMC Insurance Companies Loss Control Insights**

**Roadway Safety:** Keep Your Employees Safe On The Roads With This Winter Driving Toolkit

Winter weather can be unpredictable, especially in the northern regions. The new [Winter Driving Toolkit](https://www.emc.com/experience/toolkit/winter-driving-toolkit) will help you keep employees safe - providing important information on preparing for inclement weather and a list of items you don't want to leave home without.

The Toolkit includes 5-Minute Safety Talk, Poster, Checklist and Word Scramble. Find more toolkits on the member-exclusive website [here](https://www.emc.com/experience/).

**OSHA: OSHA Resources Can Help Workers Stay Safe During Holiday Season**

Retailers and other businesses temporarily increase staffing levels to accommodate the busy holiday shopping season. OSHA has resources to help keep warehouse employees, tractor trailer drivers, and forklift operators safe as they work to get merchandise to people's home. Retailers are encouraged to follow crowd control safety guidelines, such as using trained security personnel or rope lines for customers. For more information, visit [OSHA's Holiday Workplace Safety webpage](https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/holidayworkplace/index.html).

**OSHA Quick Takes - November 16, 2018 - Volume 17, Issue 22**
The Iowa-Illinois Safety Council has recently expanded its line of offered AED's and AED accessories.

We now offer some of the best lines on the market and are able to help with competitive pricing to fit your budget. Brands such as Heartsine, Zoll, Philips, Physio Control, and more are offered at prices that meet or beat most of the current markets pricing. Please reach out to Dan at IISC with questions or AED needs.

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