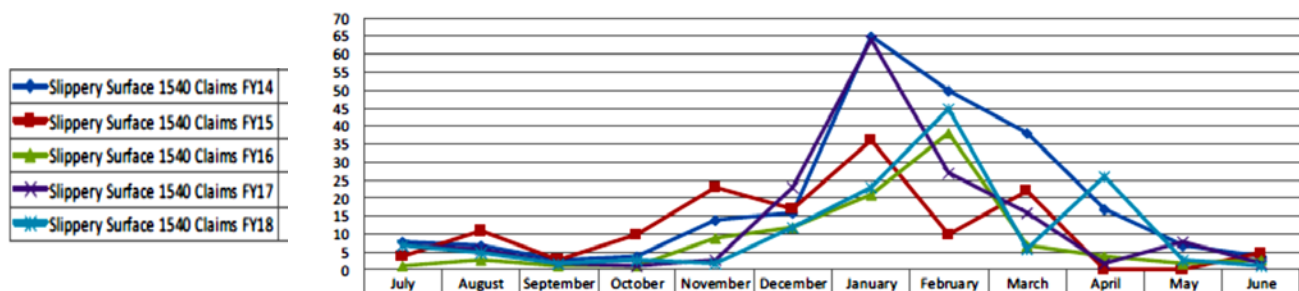


What are those cards posted outside lab doors for?

Each year, labs are asked to update their lab door safety cards. Contrary to what most people think, they are not primarily meant for any of the regular safety people on campus. Their main purpose is to give a quick summary of hazards in the lab and 24/7 contact information for emergency responders if they have to enter that lab. They also provide contact information for custodial staff if they notice something unusual in or around the lab during their 2nd and 3rd shift activities. An accurate door card provides information that can save equipment, research, and maybe even a life.

Wintery weather slips, trips, and falls

Slips, trips and falls are one of the leading causes of injury each year for State of Wisconsin employees. Historically, the highest months of injury frequency tends to be during the winter season – November through April. The graph and chart shown below illustrates the total number of slippery surface workers compensation claims, by month, over the past five years.*



Here are some simple winter safety tips that can help decrease your chances of an icy slip and fall:

- Plan ahead so you do not need to rush between buildings.
- Wear appropriate footwear that provides traction.
- Limit what you carry to provide better balance. Backpacks, satchels and over-the-shoulder purses work great to get laptops and binders out of your hands.
- Wear mittens or gloves when walking outside - Keeping your hands in your pockets increases the risk of falling or losing your balance in case you slip while walking on ice or snow. They also keep you warmer, so you don't feel as much of a need to hurry in the cold weather.
- Use designated walkways and avoid taking unshoveled shortcuts.
- When walking on steps, always use hand railings and plant feet firmly on each step.
- Watch for black ice, especially in the early morning and in areas shaded from the sun.

Please report unsafe conditions to UW Grounds Maintenance ASAP @ ppcustomerservice@fpm.wisc.edu

Jesse Decker | Director for Safety
College of Engineering
University of Wisconsin-Madison
jjdecker2@wisc.edu
(608) 263-0267 | [CoE Safety](#)

Stay Safe Badgers

