



Safety Spotlight

December 2022

Newsletter for Safety and Loss Prevention



Don't Crowd the Snow Plow

Winter is upon us, and the Department of Public Safety wants to remind members of the campus community to be mindful of snow removal equipment. Our crews work hard to maintain sidewalks, parking lots, and roadways you travel on to be as safe as possible while tackling harsh weather conditions such as ice, wind and low visibility. We want to remind everyone to always keep a safe distance when nearing the equipment by foot or by vehicle. **Don't assume the operator can see you, especially if you're too close and visibility is poor. Your best defense is to keep your distance.**

Department of Public Safety Welcomes New Director for Safety, Marcus Simpson



Marcus (Marc) Simpson is the new Director for Safety at the University of North Dakota; He has over 20 years of experience in the safety field and is also a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. Marc was born in Georgia and is an Air Force veteran which provided him with his first taste of North Dakota and his much better half Marcie, a UND grad. They have 3 children Quinlan (26), who serves his country in the Army currently stationed in Kansas, Piper (19) who currently attends UND and runs Cross Country and Track for UND, and Brixon (17), who is currently a senior in high school and will be attending UND next fall. In what little spare time he has, Marc likes to fish and hunt, as well as cheer on his Georgia Dawgs

Need to order more COVID-19 supplies?

COVID-19 supplies are still available for departments as you are preparing for the fall semester. If you need items such as tissues, Lysol, cleaning wipes, masks (all types), gloves, hand sanitizer, goggles, etc., your departmental purchaser can place an order with the Office of Safety.



Please reach out to Jen Berger with any questions.



Winter driving tips: Staying Safe on the Roads — Here are some things to remember:

- Before you travel, be sure your vehicle is equipped with a winter survival kit and ensure your vehicle always has plenty of gas in case you become stranded. Winter survival kits can be purchased commercially, or you can build your own. Some items to place in the kit include a blanket, extra clothes, hand warmers, a flash light, extra batteries, a shovel, sand and high energy foods such as nuts, candy bars and raisins.
- Always let someone know your travel plans, and check the latest weather forecasts and road conditions before you leave.
- NEVER USE CRUISE CONTROL ON SLIPPERY WINTER ROADS!
- No Travel Advisories: issued when conditions warrant no travel but not a road closure. No Travel Advisories have the potential to change to a Road Closure if conditions deteriorate. No Travel Advisories are issued for public safety to encourage motorists not to venture out onto the roads.
- Anyone who knowingly proceeds past a road closure device is in violation of state law carrying **a \$250 fine**. This action also puts the lives of emergency response personnel in danger should they have to rescue you.
- DON'T GO FAR.....STAY WITH THE CAR! If you become stranded, do not leave your vehicle, wait for help to come to you. It is possible to become quickly disoriented in blinding snow and blizzard conditions and overcome by bitterly cold temperatures. It is often difficult to correctly judge distances, and a farmstead that appears to be close may be miles away, a walk you are not prepared for in a winter storm.

Do you have a Designated Medical Provider (DMP) on file?

UND participates in the Workforce Safety and Insurance (WSI) Risk Management Program. This allows the Risk Management Workers Compensation Program (RMWCP) to designate health care providers to treat your workplace injuries and illnesses. If you need to seek medical attention due to work-related injury, you must see a designated medical provider (DMP). Emergency care is exempt from this designated provider requirement.



The [UND Designated Medical Provider \(DMP\) form](https://campus.und.edu/safety/resources/forms.html) has a listing of all UND designated medical provider areas. Altru Occupational Health has been selected for the Grand Forks Area as it has an occupational health services department with an occupational health physician as the attending physician. An occupational health physician specializes in work-related injuries/illnesses. UND Student Health Services is not a designated medical provider for the University. Employees intending to see a medical provider other than the University's DMP must designate this in writing on the DMP form. The form must be on file at the Office of Safety prior to the work-related injury. This includes not only physicians, but chiropractors, dentists, optometrists/ophthalmologists, etc. If you do not have a DMP on file or need to update your DMP, please fill out the attached form and submit to the Office of Safety. If updating the DMP form, please fill it out with all the medical providers you wish to utilize because the Office of Safety removes the previous and replaces it with the new DMP. - <https://campus.und.edu/safety/resources/forms.html>.

REMINDER:

Report All Incidents & Injuries to UND Office of Safety Within 24 Hours

Employees are required to report all incidents, including near-misses, to the Office of Safety within 24 hours (one business day).

Keep in mind that incidents do not need to result in injury or property damage to be reported. In fact, near-miss/close-call incident reports are critically important in shaping the safety efforts and priorities at UND. Additionally, any workers compensation or liability insurance could be delayed or denied based on improper or delayed incident reporting.

UND's incident reporting process allows the campus community to report incidents online. To submit an incident report, go to [Resources and Forms](#) on the [Department of Public Safety webpage](#). Click the drop-down in "Incident Reporting" for the form and instructions, as well as the incident investigation forms. Be sure to see the instructions for creating a digital signature if you do not already have one created.

If you seek medical attention for a workplace injury, you must contact the Office of Safety with your date of birth and social security number, as well as physician information as soon as possible. These are required in order for the Office of Safety to file a workers' compensation claim. By not providing this critical information, your claim cannot be filed and will ultimately delay the process by Workforce Safety & Insurance to pay for medical services.

For more information, please see the [UND Incident Reporting Policy](#).

Your attention and continued support of UND's Risk Management and Safety Programs is greatly appreciated.



Be Safe on ice! Walk like a Penguin



When things get cold and icy, stay safe and walk like a penguin.

Here are some tips to avoid slipping and falling:

- ◇ Keep your knees loose
- ◇ Extend arms to the side to keep your balance
- ◇ Keep your hands out of your pockets
- ◇ Spread your feet out slightly increase stability
- ◇ Keep your center of gravity over front leg
- ◇ Take short steps or shuffle
- ◇ If falling backwards, make an effort to tuck your chin (so your head won't hit the ground)

WINTER LESSONS: HOW TO WALK ON ICE



Safely DECK...orating THE HALLS



The holiday season is here! Are you wanting to show your festive holiday spirit? Follow these tips to help prevent injury while decorating.

- ◆ Never stand on a chair to hang decorations-use a stepladder.
- ◆ Never hang decorations from fire sprinklers as they can prevent sprinklers from operating properly.
- ◆ Make sure all electrical items (ex. string lights) are certified by a nationally recognized independent testing lab.
- ◆ Inspect all decorations and extension cords for damage prior to using them.
- ◆ Avoid overloading electrical outlets-that can cause them to overheat and cause fires.
- ◆ Don't place extension cords in high traffic areas or under rugs, carpet, or furniture.
- ◆ Never attempt to extend the length of an extension cord by connecting it to another extension cord.
- ◆ Never nail or staple extension cords to walls. Doing so may damage existing wire insulation.

Fire Extinguisher Training

The Office of Safety offers fire extinguisher and fire safety training to all employees on campus. The fire extinguisher training consists of a classroom portion as well as a practical demonstration of the use of fire extinguishers. The Department of Public Safety now offers the practical portion of the training using either actual fire extinguishers with a real fire in collaboration with the Grand Forks Fire Department, or a digital fire extinguisher training system that allows clean, indoor training.

If your department would like to be trained in the use of fire extinguishers or any other fire safety topics and questions, please contact Daniel Sorensen, the Physical Infrastructure Safety Officer at 701-777-3341.



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