

Snow Plow Safety



Key safety precautions to keep in mind when driving a snowplow:

Training: Before operating a snowplow, employees must undergo thorough training on operation of the machinery. Ensure all employees understand the policies and safety protocols governing use of snowplows and efficient snow removal techniques.

Inspect the Route: Before snow falls, good practice is to inspect the route for obstacles like curbs, manhole covers, and other hazards that might be hidden under the snow.

Check Equipment: Ensure that the snowplow and blade are in good working condition and repair any damage that is needed. Before every use, check fluid levels, batteries, lights, tires and tire pressures.

Use Plow Markers: Utilize plow markers to help see the ends of the plow and avoid hitting curbs or other obstacles.

Stay Visible: Before use, ensure all lights on the snowplow are functioning properly and wear hi-visibility clothing during use. This helps other drivers see you, especially at night or low visibility conditions.

Be Mindful: Obey all traffic laws and be cautious of other drivers around you who may be struggling with the road conditions. Drive carefully through busy intersections and congested areas such as parking lots and residential streets. Wear your seatbelt.

Take Breaks: Snowplowing can be physically and mentally demanding, so take regular breaks to avoid fatigue.

Plan for Emergencies: Keep a charged phone, emergency kit, extra clothing, and blankets in the snowplow. Be prepared for unexpected breakdowns or accidents. Be aware of weather changes that could effect visibility or movement.



Members can access winter safety training videos through the **LARM Member Training** menu on the LARM website, larmpool.org. If you need any assistance obtaining access to the website or winter training videos, contact our loss control team at james.kelley@larmpool.org or john.hobbs@larmpool.org.