

# Snow Removal with UTVs

## Side-by-Side (UTV) safety precautions for removing snow:

-  **Training:** All employees utilizing UTVs for snow removal should be properly trained to ensure they are familiar with the operation of the equipment and understand the techniques for safe and efficient snow removal.
-  **Inspect the Area:** Clear the area of any obstacles like rocks, branches, or other debris that could damage the UTV or be thrown by the plow. Avoid piling snow around fire hydrants and entry ways.
-  **Be Visible:** Orange and white flashing lights along with headlights should be utilized to help ensure you are visible to others, especially at night and in low visibility conditions.
-  **Wear Appropriate Gear:** Dress warmly in layers, including gloves, boots with good traction, and high-visibility clothing. Eye protection is also recommended for potential flying debris or snow.
-  **Inspect the UTV:** Ensure the UTV is in good working condition. Check the tires, lights, fluids, battery, backup warning device, and plow attachment. Inspect the blade for damage and make needed repairs before use.
-  **Use Proper Technique:** Drive at a controlled speed to maintain stability and avoid sudden movements. Push snow in straight lines when possible and avoid sharp turns. Be cautious on slopes and uneven terrain. Wear your seatbelt.
-  **Avoid Overloading:** Do not overload the plow with too much snow at once. This can strain the UTV and make it unstable, increasing the risk of accidents.
-  **Stay Alert:** Always be aware of changes with your surroundings. Be cautious near pedestrians, vehicles, buildings, and other obstacles in the area where snow is being removed.
-  **Take Breaks:** Take regular breaks to avoid fatigue and mental exhaustion.
-  **Follow Manufacturer's Instructions:** Adhere to the UTV and plow manufacturer's guidelines for safe operation and maintenance for both.



Members can access winter safety training videos through the **LARM Member Training** menu on the LARM website, [larmpool.org](http://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](mailto:james.kelley@larmpool.org) or [john.hobbs@larmpool.org](mailto:john.hobbs@larmpool.org).