

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

RISK REMINDER

PARTNERING WITH TOWNSHIPS



With Winter here, the following checklist may be of help when your Township/Road District begins plowing streets and removing snow and ice. Inspect all trucks and plows, immediately before and after each use, and document the inspections. Be sure to include the following:

- 1. All lights and signals
- 2. Tires
- 3. Brakes
- 4. Windshield wipers
- 5. Fluid levels
- 6. 2-way radio
- 7. Spreader/spinner

- 8. Plow bolt
- 9. Cutting edges
- 10. Back-up alarm
- 11. Horn
- 12. Mirrors
- 13. Heater/defroster
- 14. First aid kit

Be familiar with the route: If possible, each driver should travel the planned snow route in good weather to become familiar with physical hazards or conditions which could cause an accident or property damage during actual snow and ice removal. Some of the conditions to look for include the following:

- Uneven road surfaces (manhole covers, construction, medians, curbs, brick streets)
- Mail boxes, fences, parked cars
- Limited visibility in intersections
- Adequate clearance (viaducts, narrow streets, low hanging limbs and wires), especially when running with the bed up.

Other Important Safety Factors to Remember

- Be aware of areas on your route where there may be children playing in deep snow.
- Watch for pedestrians walking in or near the street.
- Never drive when drowsy, sick, or after consumption of alcohol. (Zero tolerance is the best policy).
- Remember defensive driving techniques, including proper following distance.
- Don't back up, unless absolutely necessary. Backing is the greatest cause of vehicle accidents.