



Greenhouse Slip & Fall Prevention

Fact: In the United States, slips, trips and falls are the most common occupational accidents. Slips and falls account for more than one million hospital visits each year.

Whether you own a small greenhouse open only in the spring and summer months, or a large commercial operation that is open year-round, greenhouses are enjoyed and utilized by many people. However, owning a greenhouse comes with certain responsibilities to keep your employees and customers safe from slips and falls.

Hazards & Prevention

General cleaning and housekeeping practices can have a major impact on the overall safety of your business.

- Keep both the exterior and interior of the premises free from debris and trash
- When not being used, make sure all equipment and supplies are properly stowed away; these items can include ladders, hoses, pots and other supplies
- Never leave hoses unattended when unrolled. This often creates a major tripping hazard. If possible, avoid running hoses across aisles or pathways where customers will be walking
- Use water-absorbent mats and runners to help avoid slippery ground
- Provide good lighting in high-traffic areas
- Paint edges of steps yellow
- Correct any trip hazards in flooring, including cracks, holes or irregularities/uneven surfaces
- Avoid contaminants on the floor
- Keep walkways free from obstructions. Walkways should be a safe width
- Hand rails should be present at both wheelchair and pedestrian heights
- Post warning signs regarding potential slip and fall hazards
- Weather Conditions: Create an organized program to promptly remove ice and snow from parking lots, garages and sidewalks

Ladders are another item that can pose a danger. When using a ladder, make sure it is properly set up and on level ground. Do not overestimate the reach of the ladder; never try to reach something that is too high when you are on a ladder. This is a major fall hazard and can cause serious injury. Never allow a customer to use or climb on a ladder.

Make regular walk-through inspections to look for slip, trip and fall hazards or other potential exposures. Be proactive, look for hazards and correct them before they become a problem. Both your customers and your employees will appreciate your efforts and concern for their overall safety and well-being.



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