

MIIA RISK MANAGEMENT ADVISORY - STEPLADDER SAFETY FOR MUNICIPAL WORKERS



THE NUMBERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES - AMERICAN LADDER INSTITUTE

Do you know how ladders affect everyone?	
500,000+	People treated for ladder-related falls each year
300+	Death from ladder falls each year
\$24 B	Annual expenses to US for work loss, medical, legal, liability
Do you know how much ladder accidents are costing you?	
\$17.1 B	17.1 Billion spent on workplace falls from working at heights
Top 3	Falls are in top 3 most common disabling workplace injury
#6	Ladders are #6 on OSHA's Top 10 Most Cited Violations List

PREVENTION BEST PRACTICES

PREPARATION

- Select correct ladder – type (e.g., nonmetal near electrical), height, size, and duty rating.
- Inspect the ladder for dirt, corrosion, missing pieces, cracked or broken parts, etc.
- Inspect shoes for clogged treads or slippery substances that could cause you to slip.
- Check how you feel and don't climb if feeling dizzy or tired, in a hurry, or very stressed.
- Check weather if using outside and don't use if wind or weather conditions pose risk.
- Check the surface to ensure it is level, stable, non-slippery, and free of clutter.

LADDER SET-UP

- Position it away from doors/traffic areas. If needed, lock the doors and/or use barriers.
- Place it close to the work and open the spreaders all the way into a locked position.
- Weigh your supplies and equipment to ensure you do not exceed the duty rating.

SAFE USE

- Carry your tools on a belt, use a hoist, or have someone hand them to you.
- Face the ladder and climb on and grip the rungs (not side rails).
- Keep your body in the middle of the rails for stability.
- Climb no higher than the second step from the top cap.
- Reposition the ladder to prevent overreaching.
- Remove and tag damaged ladders with an "Out of Service" tag and contact supervisor.