



## **Eye on Safety | Winter Parking Lot Safety Tips**

The winter months presents many challenges when it comes to walking through parking lots. There may be snow on the ground, poor lighting, or a lot of cars going in and out. It can be really challenging this time of year at stores with all the holiday shoppers. Here are a few tips to help keep you safe in parking lots:

- Wear appropriate footwear such as boots or nonslip soles with good ankle support. If going into an office building, you can carry your indoor shoes along with you to change into once inside.
- Avoid cell phone usage while walking to your vehicle. This will allow you to be more aware of your surroundings.
- Be cautious getting in and out of your vehicle when there is snow and ice on the ground. Know what type of surface you are stepping onto.
- Try to make eye contact with drivers as they approach so you know they see you. Stop walking if you don't think the driver sees you.
- Walk on sidewalks or side of aisle and watch for cars, especially for those that may be backing up.
- Before moving your vehicle, adjust mirrors, radio, GPS and put your cell phone down.
- Drive the speed limit and obey traffic signs.

*Submitted by Valerie Januski, Injury Prevention & Safety Operations Administrative Branch Manager*