

Slips, Trips, And Falls – Landscaping Stats and Facts

FACTS

Primary hazards and types of injuries associated with slips, trips, and falls in landscaping:

1. Uneven and Slippery Surfaces

- **Uneven Terrain:** Landscaping often involves working on natural and uneven ground surfaces.
- **Wet or Muddy Conditions:** Rain can create wet and slippery conditions.

1. Obstacles and Clutter

- **Tools and Equipment:** When left on the ground these can create tripping hazards if not properly stored.

1. Improper Footwear

- Wearing inappropriate footwear without adequate grip increases the risk of slipping.

Types of Injuries

1. Sprains and Strains

- Result from sudden falls or trips, causing overextension of muscles and tendons.

1. Fractures

- Falls from heights or tripping over obstacles can lead to broken bones.

1. Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs)

- Severe impacts during falls cause concussions and traumatic brain injuries.

1. Back and Spinal Cord Injuries

- Falls can lead to herniated discs and, spinal cord damage.

STATS

- In 2023, slips, trips, and falls accounted for over 450,540 work injuries and 865 work-related deaths across various industries, including landscaping.
- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, slips, trips, and falls are one of the most common causes of non-fatal workplace injuries. They accounted for 27% of all workplace injuries in 2021.
- In the construction industry, which includes landscaping, slips, trips, and falls are particularly prevalent. In 2021, nearly one in five workplace deaths occurred in the construction sector, with over 33% of these deaths attributed to falls.
- In Canada, slips, trips, and falls are also a leading cause of workplace injuries. These incidents account for a significant number of workers' compensation claims and result in substantial lost work time.