



## KCA TOOLBOX TALK

### Muddy Work Area

Weather can create many hazards and slow down projects on outdoor work sites. Ground conditions should be part of your daily risk assessment. Poor ground conditions not only effect ground level workers, but also effect any type of machinery that moves along the surface of the jobsite. Muddy conditions can ruin construction materials, effect trenches and other excavations, pull and strain muscles, cause slip and falls, and get vehicles stuck.

#### Safety Tips:

- When your foot is stuck in mud, do not yank it out; instead slowly work it out by moving your foot back and forth
- Remove mud from your boots before getting in equipment and maintain clean steps on equipment; use 3 points of contact when climbing in and out
- Fix excessively muddy areas with a bull dozer to remove excess mud and get down to solid ground
- Use trackout mats; especially at the entrances and exits to the work site
- Closely inspect all excavations, before any crew starts working, to determine if the weather is causing unsafe conditions
- Refrain from driving into excessively muddy areas or up and down slopes; getting stuck puts other workers at risk as they help pull your vehicle out.
- Inspect tow hooks and straps/cables for wear and tear before you use them to pull out stuck vehicles and the frame is the only part of a truck that can really handle pulling the weight of another vehicle

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***Teamwork Improves Safety!***