

# GOT RISK?

## District *Safety* Gram **PEOPLE-MISSION-SAFETY**



### *Slips, Trips and Falls*

*Two district employees have been injured by slips, trips and falls in the Waterfield Building lobby within the last three weeks. With the Christmas Angel Tree, presents and contractors moving furniture and equipment, the lobby has become quite congested. Be aware of potential hazards, extension cords, additional rugs and cardboard being placed on the floor. If you encounter contractors moving equipment or furniture, give them the right of way. Be aware of the hazards - don't become a victim!*

#### ***Keep the following in mind:***

- ***Slips:*** Slips are caused by a lack of grip with the floor's surface. Slips can occur due to various floor conditions. Some of the more common examples of things conducive to causing slips include: loose carpeting or area rugs, wet surfaces such as stairs and sidewalks and icy surfaces. Use caution in areas that present a hazard. Slow down and pay attention. Don't run around trying to save time, only to get injured and lose more time.
- ***Trips:*** Trips are caused by an imbalance of the body. When a part of the body, such as a foot, comes into direct contact with an object, and then force is applied, a trip condition can occur. Objects in walkways present the biggest and most common concern involving trips in an office building. Loose carpeting, open drawers and uneven surfaces also pose tripping hazards.
- ***Falls:*** Falls can cause the most damage and problems for an employee and the office in which he or she works. Most falls in the workplace (around 60 percent) are the result of slips or trips. Other falls (40 percent) occur due to varying heights. Falls can cause serious injuries to you and those people around you. Falls are especially important when they involve the elderly, as the risk of breaking a bone is much higher as people age.

***Every employee's participation in being the solution to safety issues is the key to the Army Corps of Engineers Safety Program.***

