



TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

RISK REMINDER

Look Before Backing

Backing incidents are among the most frequently reported claims. Here are some safety tips to help prevent backing incidents.

- **Use technology:** Install safety features such as backup cameras and/or warning sensors.
- **Plan ahead:** If you are working in a high traffic area, use appropriate signage and the buddy system. Try to have someone spot you or stop traffic while you are backing.
- **Check your surroundings:** If you are by yourself, when possible do a walk-around the vehicle or equipment to check for obstacles or other hazards that could be a potential threat.
- **Know your blind spots:** Familiarize yourself with the blind spots of the truck or equipment.
- **Use your mirrors effectively:** Double-check mirrors before reversing. Adjust them to cover as much area as possible.
- **Back up slowly:** Take your time and back up at a slow pace. This allows more time to react to any obstacles or pedestrians.
- **Avoid distractions:** Stay focused on the task at hand. Do not use your cell phone while operating any trucks or equipment. Constantly be aware of your surroundings.
- **Weather hazards:** Be extra cautious in bad weather. Poor conditions reduce visibility and make surfaces slippery.
- **Choose safe parking spots:** Park in a way that allows you to drive forward versus backing.



To request a Look Before Backing sticker, simply log in to the Members Only site at www.toirma.org and place your order.

For more information, contact TOIRMA at (888) 562-7861

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