

MONTHLY SAFETY NEWSLETTER

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY



SPRING HAZARDS

FIND OUT WHAT SPRING MAY HAVE SPRUNG ONTO YOU

Spring is a season that brings feelings of hope and renewal, yet it is also one of change and instability. Here are some hazards that you may want to review:

SPRING THAW:

- A **gradual warming** of the environment when ice and snow melt, and soil becomes softer due to a lack of frost
- Ground conditions may become **unstable** and **saturated** by water
- **Exposed ground hazards** may still be partially hidden
- **Local flooding** and **spring runoff** could affect our campus and its trails

STORM SEASON:

- Early Spring is a favourable time for **lightning, thunderstorms**, and **hazardous stormfronts**
- **Proceed indoors** or **seek shelter** if you see lightning or hear thunder
- **Do not** use campus trails and avoid open water during thunderstorms

THE BEARS ARE BACK:

- Black bears are currently **waking from their hibernation** and are looking for food, which is in scarce supply
- Black bears can weigh up to **600 pounds** and run up to **50km/h**
- **Do not** panic, **do not** turn your back, **do not** run, **do not** make eye contact
- **Wave your arms** above your head and **make noise** towards it
- Prepare for a hike by **leashing** your pets and bringing **bear spray**
- **Do not** feed bears or any animals on our campus trails
- **Report** any black bear sightings to the **Health and Safety Officer** at:
 - 705-474-3450, extension **4123**
 - matthieut@nipissingu.ca

WORKER'S RIGHTS

KNOW

You have the right to know about health and safety matters in the workplace.

PARTICIPATE

You have the right to participate in conversations and decisions that could affect your health and safety in the workplace.

REFUSE

You have the right to refuse work that could affect your health and safety in the workplace.

