

# Markel Risk Solution Services

2025 safety calendar



### MARKEL

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Markel Risk Solution Services 2025 safety calendar







**January** Radon and carbon monoxide safety

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**June** Heat illness prevention **July** Fireworks safety

August First aid

September Machine guarding

**October** Electrical safety

**November** Emergency management

**December** Winter driving

## January



#### Radon and carbon monoxide safety

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Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the natural decay of uranium. It cannot be seen or smelled. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer and is responsible for 21,000 lung cancer deaths every year. The amount of radon in soil depends on chemistry which varies from home to home; age not being a factor in level of risk. The amount of radon that escapes the soil varies based on weather, soil porosity, soil moisture and the suction within the home. Radon from soil gas is the main cause of radon problems. Sometimes radon enters the home through well water. In a small number of incidents, the building materials can give off radon, too. However, building materials rarely cause radon problems by themselves. The only way to know radon levels is to test for exposure. Obtain a test kit to know your risk.

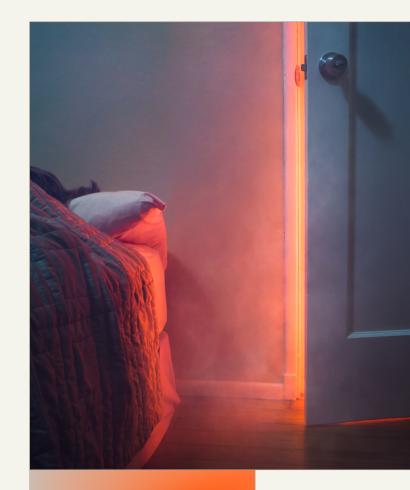
Carbon monoxide (CO) is a very toxic gas that is impossible to see, taste or smell. The effects of CO can be fatal and knowing you are exposed requires monitoring. Obtain a CO detector to know when exposure occurs. Sources of CO include:

- Unvented kerosene and gas space heaters
- Leaking chimneys and furnaces
- Back-drafting from furnaces, gas water heaters, wood stoves and fireplaces
- Gas stoves
- Generators and other gasoline powered equipment
- Automobile exhaust from attached garages
- Tobacco smoke
- Auto, truck or bus exhaust from attached garages, nearby roads or parking areas
- Incomplete oxidation during combustion in gas ranges and unvented gas or kerosene heaters
- Worn or poorly adjusted and maintained combustion devices (e.g., boilers, furnaces)
- If the flue is improperly sized, blocked or disconnected
- If the flue is leaking

i ) January is: <u>National Radon Action month</u>

#### Source:

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) https://www.epa.gov/radon https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/carbon-monoxides-impact-indoor-air-quality#Overview



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# January



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	<b>20</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day Inauguration Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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# February

### Fire safety

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Develop fire-safe habits to prevent a fire from occurring:

- Keep items that can catch on fire more than three feet away from heating sources.
- Smoking materials are the leading cause of residential fire deaths in the US. Do not allow anyone to smoke indoors. Refrain from tossing ashtrays without dousing in water before disposal.
- Educate your children on the dangers of matches and lighters. Always keep them out of reach.
- Do not leave burning candles or portable heaters unattended or on while asleep.
- Make sure your furnaces, stoves and chimneys are clean and in good working order.
- Ensure electrical wiring is inspected by a professional.
- Be sure to stay in the kitchen while cooking and keep the stove area clean and clear.
- If a fire starts in a pan, slide a lid over it and turn off the burner. Leave the lid in place until it cools. Never pour water on a grease fire.

There are essential tips you can follow to ensure safety in the event of a fire. It starts with early warning detection devices:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.
- Test smoke alarms each month and replace batteries as needed.
- Communicate with your family about a fire escape plan and put the plan into practice. Ensure
  children know what a smoke alarm sounds like and two ways to escape from every room to a
  designated meeting spot.
- If the unfortunate happens and a fire ensues, get out and stay out, call for help and never go back inside for any reason.
- Know and teach how to stop, drop and roll if clothes should catch on fire.

#### i) February is: <u>American Heart month</u>





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# February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 •	3 •	4 •	5 •	6 •	7 •	8 •
Groundhog Day						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Super Bowl					Valentine's Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Presidents' Day					
23	24	25	26	27	28	

#### National Burn Awareness Week

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# March



#### Housekeeping

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Housekeeping is a broad term that refers to the routine maintenance and upkeep of a workplace. Effective housekeeping helps control or eliminate workplace hazards. The practice extends from traditional offices to higher-risk workplaces such as construction sites and industrial workplaces with unique safety challenges such as flammables, falls from heights and combustible dust. Good housekeeping practices are crucial for maintaining a safe workplace and can help companies avoid fines for non-compliance. Poor housekeeping practices frequently contribute to workplace injuries and reportable incidents.

Workers need to know how to operate safely in their work environment and with the products they use. They also need to know how to protect other workers and visitors from hazards using practices such as posting signs and reporting unusual conditions. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) references housekeeping in several general industry standards outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 29, Part 1910 (e.g., walking-working surfaces, flammable liquids, sanitation, material handling). Although OHSA does not require a written housekeeping program for general industry, every workplace safety program should incorporate housekeeping, and each worker should play a part.

At a minimum, effective housekeeping programs should aim to keep buildings and equipment operational and in good repair; prevent slips, trips and falls; eliminate fire hazards; control dust and dirt accumulation; store materials properly; clear clutter; and prevent falling objects.

March is:

Brain Injury Awareness month

National Nutrition month

Workplace Eye Wellness month
National Ladder Safety month



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#### Source:

https://www.ecoonline.com/blog/11-tips-for-effective-workplace-housekeeping https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/hsprograms/house.html https://weeklysafety.com/blog/office-workplace-safety-housekeeping https://www.army.mil/article/237464/tips\_for\_effective\_workplace\_housekeeping

# March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>9</b> • Daylight savings time starts	10 •	11 •	12 •	13 •	14 •	15 •
16 •	17 • St. Patrick's Day	18 •	19 •	20	21 •	22 •
23 •	24 •	25 •	26	27 •	28	29 •
30	31					

• National Patient Safety Awareness Week

• National Poison Prevention Week

National Cleaning Week

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# April

### **MARKEL**

### **Distracted driving**

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The following tips are ways you can avoid being distracted while you drive.

- Store loose gear, possessions and other distractions that could roll around in the car so you do not feel tempted to reach for them on the floor or the seat.
- Adjust vehicle systems like your GPS, seats, mirrors, climate controls and sound systems before hitting the road. Decide on your route and check traffic conditions ahead of time.
- Finish dressing and personal grooming at home before getting on the road.
- Eat meals or snacks before or after your trip, not while driving. On the road, avoid messy foods that can be difficult to manage.
- Secure children and pets before getting underway. If they need your attention, pull off the road safely to care for them. Reaching into the backseat can cause you to lose control of the vehicle.
- Put aside your electronic distractions. Don't use cell phones while driving, handheld or hands-free, except in absolute emergencies. Never use text messaging, email functions, video games or the internet with a wireless device, including those built into the vehicle, while driving.
- If you have passengers, enlist their help so you can focus on driving safely.
- If another activity demands your attention, instead of trying to attempt it while driving, pull off the road and stop your vehicle in a safe place. To avoid temptation, power down or stow devices before heading out.
- As a rule, if you cannot devote your full attention to driving because of some other activity, it's a
  distraction. Take care of it before or after your trip, not while behind the wheel.

(i) April is:

Distracted Driving Awareness month National Youth Sports Safety month



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# April



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 • •	8 •	9 •	10 •	11 •	12     Passover
13 •	14	<b>15</b> Tax Day	16	17	<b>18</b> Good Friday	19
<b>20</b> Easter Sunday	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

• National Window Safety Week

• National Work Zone Awareness Week

National Playground Safety Week

World Health Day

• Workers' Memorial Day

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# May

### Slip and fall prevention

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Tips to prevent slips and falls:

- Maintain clear floors and surfaces.
- Remove cords from walkways.
- Ensure handrails are available in stairwells.
- Wear sensible footwear.
- Never stand on chairs or furniture.
- Maintain good housekeeping.
- Ensure adequate lighting.
- Utilize secure floor mats at doorways during inclement weather.
- Clear and salt or sand walkways during inclement winter weather.

#### i May is:

Motorcycle Safety month National Bike month National Electrical Safety month Older Americans month Clean Air month Trauma Awareness month National Water Safety month National Child Passenger Safety Technician month Healthy Vision month National Physical Fitness and Sports month Mental Health month Better Hearing month Building Safety month Global Youth Traffic Safety month Global Employee Health and Fitness month

#### Sources:

American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)

http://www.assp.org/docs/default-source/news/solving-slips-trips-falls\_011817-2-safestart\_slips\_trips\_and\_falls\_guide\_-asse.pdf?sfvrsn=2#:~:text=Properly%20addressing%20slips%2C%20trips%20and





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# May



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 •	2	3
				May Day		Kentucky Derby
4	<b>5</b> Cinco de Mayo	6 •	7 •	8 •	9 •	10 •
<b>11</b> Mother's Day	12	13	14	15	16	17 •
18 •	19 • •	20 • •	21	22	23	24 •
25 •	<b>26</b> Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31

National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Workplace Falls

National Safe Boating Week

🔹 🔍 EMS Week

National Heatstroke Prevention Day

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### June

### Heat illness prevention

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Follow these essential tips to stay safe when temperatures are high:

- Wear suitable clothing for the climate. Choose lightweight, light-colored and loose-fitting clothing.
- Stay indoors and in air conditioning as much as possible. Fans may provide some comfort, but they
  will not prevent heat-related illness. Taking a cool shower or moving to an air-conditioned place is a
  better option.
- Limit your outdoor activities to the morning and evening. Rest in shady areas.
- Pace yourself when you are in the heat. Start slowly. If you're not acclimated to the environment, you are at higher risk for heat illness.
- Danger signals include heart-pounding, difficulty breathing, heavy sweating, lightheadedness, muscle cramping, headaches, confusion, weakness or feeling faint. If you do not feel well, rest in the shade and seek medical assistance immediately. Heatstroke is a medical emergency.
- Never leave children or pets in cars. Cars heat up to dangerous temperatures quickly, even with a window open.
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids, regardless of activity level. Avoid sugar-laden or alcoholic drinks.
- Monitor the weather conditions and those at high risk, like younger children, elderly and overweight individuals.
- Know the signs and symptoms of heat-related illness and know how to treat them.





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i) June is: <u>National Safety month</u>

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/heat-stress/about/index.html

### June



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 •	2 •	3 •	4 •	5 •	6 •	7 •
8	9	10 •	11	12	13	14 • Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16	17 •	18	19 •	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

National Trailer Safety Week

• National Ride to Work Day

• National Law Enforcement Week

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# July



### **Fireworks safety**

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The National Safety Council advises to leave fireworks to professionals. Each year, many serious injuries and fires are reported as a result from fireworks ignited at home. If fireworks are legal where you live and you choose to use them, be sure to follow the following safety tips:

- Never allow children to handle fireworks, even sparklers.
- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol.
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear.
- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands.
- Never light fireworks indoors.
- Only use fireworks away from people, houses and flammable material.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting.
- Never ignite devices in a container.
- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks.
- Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire.
- Never use illegal fireworks.

#### (i) July is:

#### National Firework Safety month

Vehicle Theft Prevention month

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# July



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	<b>4</b> Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0	1	0	3	10	**	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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# August

### MARKEL

### First aid

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There are essential steps to follow when providing first aid to an individual in immediate need. The purpose of administering emergency first aid is to help an injured party before emergency medical services (EMS) arrive. To be prepared, one should be CPR and first aid trained and certified. First aid may be used to assist individuals with a wide range of conditions, including severe asthma, anaphylaxis, burns, choking, diabetic emergencies, bleeding, heart attack, poisoning, stroke and seizure. Review the below guidelines for awareness on providing first aid:

- Before providing care to an injured or ill person, check the scene. Is it safe? What happened? How
  many people were involved? Are injuries life threatening? Is anyone else available to assist?
- If a person is awake and responsive without life threatening injuries, obtain consent. Tell them your name, level of training, what you think is wrong and ask permission to provide care. Ask the person about signs and symptoms.
- Tell a bystander to get the AED and first aid kit.
- Use personal protective equipment. Put on gloves if available.
- If a person is unresponsive, send someone to call 911. Keep the person lying face up on a flat surface. If the person is not breathing, begin CPR as trained, starting with compressions, or use an AED.

Remember to keep your first aid kits stocked. It is also a good idea to have AEDs available and some of your workforce first aid and CPR certified.

i) August is:

National Immunization Awareness month Back to School month <u>Children's Eye Health & Safety month</u> <u>Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over</u>



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**Source:** American Red Cross https://www.redcross.org

# August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 •	4 •	5 •	6 •	7 ••	8 ••	9 ••
10 •	11 •	12 •	13 •	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 •						

Stop on Red Week
Safe + Sound Week

International Overdose Awareness Day

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# September



### Machine guarding

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**Guards** provide physical barriers that prevent access to dangerous areas. Guards usually are preferable to other control methods because they are physical barriers that enclose dangerous machine parts and prevent employee contact with them. To be effective, guards must be strong and fastened by any secure method that prevents the guard from being inadvertently dislodged or removed. Commonly used machine guards are fixed, adjustable, self-adjusting and interlocking barrier guards.

**Safeguarding devices** are controls or attachments that, when properly designed, applied and used, usually prevent inadvertent access by employees to hazardous machine areas by either preventing or detecting operator contact with the point of operation or stopping potentially hazardous machine motion if any part of an individual's body is within the hazardous portion of the machine.

#### Criteria for machine safeguarding

- Prevents employee contact with the hazardous area during machine operation.
- Avoids creating additional hazards.
- Is secure, tamper-resistant and durable.
- Avoids interfering with normal operation of the machine.
- Allows for safe lubrication and maintenance.
- Types of safeguarding devices include pullback devices, restraint devices, presence sensing devices, presence sensing mats, two-hand control, two-hand trip, type "A" gate and type "B" gate.

Both types of safeguards need to be properly designed, constructed, installed, used and maintained in good operating condition to ensure employee protection.

i) September is:

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery month

National Preparedness month

National Food Safety Education month Sports Eye Safety month



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# September



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 •	15 •	16 •	17 •	18 •	19 • •	20 •
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

National Farm Safety and Health Week

Concussion Awareness Day

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# October



### **Electrical safety**

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It's important to be aware of critical electrical safety issues to prevent serious injuries. Here are some steps that can be taken to reduce fires, injuries and property damage:

- Knowing the warning signs of an overloaded electrical system.

- Tripping circuit breakers or blowing fuses.
- Avoiding dimming lights when devices are turned on.
- Buzzing sound from switches or outlets.
- Discolored outlets.
- Appliances that appear underpowered.
- Avoiding overloaded circuits.
- Labelling circuit breakers.
- Inspecting property especially those over 40 years old.
- Installing new circuits for high energy use devices.
- Using energy efficient appliances and lighting.
- Not overloading extension cords or allowing them to run through water or snow on the ground.
- Not substituting extension cords for permanent wiring.
- Not running extension cords through walls, doorways, ceilings or floors; if cord is covered, it may result in a fire hazard.
- Not using an extension cord for more than one appliance and installing additional outlets where you
  need them.
- Making sure the extension cord or temporary power strip you use is rated for the products.
- Not cutting off the ground pin to force a fit.
- Buying only cords approved by an independent testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

#### i) October is:

National Substance Abuse Prevention month National Crime Prevention month National Protect Your Hearing month



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# October



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	National Indigenous Peoples Day					
19	20 •	21 •	22 •	23 •	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
					Halloween	

#### National School Bus Safety Week

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## November



#### **Emergency management**

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Emergency or disaster management, including preparedness, response and recovery activities, is essential for the safety of workers and the protection of your business. Developing a disaster recovery plan for your small business can help mitigate potential losses and prepare for humanmade or natural disasters.

Your plan should cover general disaster recovery and address risks specific to the business location, size and operations. As a minimum, the program should include the following:

- Emergency response Who is the first point of contact (e.g., owner, manager) when a disaster occurs? How will employees be notified? What is the procedure for ensuring the safety of any employees or customers present during the disaster?
- Communication How will the business inform customers of the temporary closure? Are there specific customers who need to be personally notified? How can their contact information be retrieved? What information should be communicated (e.g. reasons for closure, expected timeframe to resume operations, outside resources to receive services)?
- Damage assessment Who oversees taking an inventory of physical damages? Is there a checklist
  of areas/items that should be included in the inventory (e.g. ceilings, flooring, building condition,
  entrances/exits, furniture, technology, physical documents/important files)? Will any third-party
  companies be necessary? How will they be contacted?
- Resources and/or temporary facilities Where can customers find resources or necessary services during the closure? Which third-party entities will be necessary for the recovery process? If applicable, is there a temporary location where the business can operate before a permanent site is acquired? Is there an agreement and plan in place with the alternative facilities?
- Recovering data and files How are important documents and files stored (e.g., physical storage, computer data, etc.)? How can the data be retrieved? Who is responsible for accessing files?

After a disaster recovery plan has been developed, all employees should receive training on implementing the procedures. The more familiar they are with the information, the more likely they will execute the plan successfully and remain mindful of workplace safety.

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mergencypia

Source: Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety https://ibhs.org/BusinessDisasterRecovery/

## November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Daylight saving time ends		Election Day				
9	10	<b>11</b> Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	<b>27</b> Thanksgiving Day	<b>28</b> Black Friday	29
30						

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## December



#### Winter driving

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Consider the following recommendations before driving a vehicle in cold weather conditions:

- Get your car serviced. It's a good idea to get a tune-up before the cold weather arrives. Be sure to check the battery, tires, lights, cooling system and windshield wipers.
- Stock your vehicle. Be prepared for an emergency. Supplies may include a snow shovel, ice scraper, sand or salt, jumper cables, flashlight, flares, blankets, cell phone charger, food and water.
- Check the weather, road conditions and traffic.
- Keep your gas tank near full.

Follow safe driving tips during winter weather:

- Stay alert and take your time getting to your destination. Drive slower than usual as conditions may be slick and snow-covered.
- Do not drive while distracted or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Do not travel beside a snowplow and maintain proper distance.

If you are stopped or stalled in your vehicle during wintry weather:

- Stay in your car.
- Place bright markers on antenna or windows.
- Keep the interior light on in the car.
- Don't run your car for long periods with the windows up.
- Be sure the exhaust pipe is clear of snow to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

i) December is:

Safe Toys and Gifts month

Holiday Season Drunk Driving Campaign

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration https://www.nhtsa.gov/winter-driving-tips

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# December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Hanukkah						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
December Solstice			Christmas Eve	Christmas Day		
28	29	30	31			
			New Year's Eve			

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