



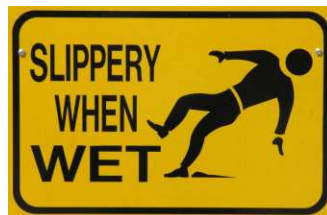
International Window Cleaning Association Water-Fed Pole (WFP) Safety Card

Management Responsibilities

- Assess work areas to identify and abate hazards
- Ensure operators of the WFP are properly trained and competent
- Provide adequate personal protective equipment and/or roof edge protection or other systems
- Provide high visibility clothing
- Conduct regular documented inspections of the WFP
- Ensure work areas are barricaded to prevent public access

Water-Fed Pole Hazards

- Weather conditions contributing to falling poles
- Electrocutation from overhead power sources
- Slippery or uneven ground surfaces
- Trip hazards, such as ground obstacles, equipment, and hoses
- Falls from height when working from flat roofs
- Falling WFP brushes and accessories
- Carrying heavy materials, such as overloaded tanks, systems, and equipment
- Injury through incorrect manual handling of the WFP



Safe Work Practices for WFP Operators

- Do not work in adverse weather conditions
- Avoid energized overhead power sources
- Be vigilant with regard to the work area surroundings
- Keep work areas tidy and equipment clear of immediate work area
- Use appropriate fall protection equipment when working from roofs or other heights
- Always perform maintenance checks before each use of the WFP.
- If working alone, establish a contact system and conduct regular checks
- Know your limitations and don't be frightened to ask for help
- To avoid fatigue:
 - Take periodic breaks
 - Operate the WFP by stepping a single stride forward and back
 - Share the WFP with other members of the team
 - Switch from the left hand side to the right hand side of the body
- Do not scrub or rinse sideways with any pole above 10 feet
- Avoid extending your arms above shoulder.
- Keep the WFP positioned at a 1:3 ratio, (10 feet: 30 feet) so more of the weight of the pole is displaced onto the building and less on the operator.



Through the OSHA and International Window Cleaning Association (IWCA) Alliance, IWCA developed this card for informational purposes only. It does not necessarily reflect the official views of OSHA or the U.S. Department of Labor. Dec. 2011