

ESS Clean, Inc
February 2013

Spotlight on Safety

Stairwell Cleaning

Cleaning the stairs is an important part of the job. The stairs are a public area and thus highly visible to the customer. We need to clean the handrails, dust all edges and trim, and vacuum or mop the treads.

Cleaning a stairwell can present hazards if you are not careful. Keep the following tips in mind when cleaning the stairs:

- Stairwells should always be free and clear of obstruction. Never leave tools or equipment (not even a spray bottle) on stairs, as others using the stairs would not expect something to be on the stairs and could trip and fall.
- When vacuuming the stairs, start at the bottom of stairs and work your way up. When mopping, start at the top and work your way down.
- Use handrails and walk (don't run) when going up or down stairs.
- Minimize distractions. Be alert and aware of your surroundings.
- Always know where the last step is, so you don't fall.
- Finally, always put up a "Caution: Wet Floor" sign when mopping stairs.



Cleaning Story #1

Fred Flintstone was cleaning the stairs at his account. After Fred finished vacuuming, it was time to take his break. Fred thought he was alone in the building so decided to leave his backpack vacuum on the stairs with the intention of putting it away immediately after his break was over. While on break, one of the customer's employees, who was in his office upstairs working on a very important project, went downstairs to look for some papers. While walking down the stairs, he tripped on Fred's vacuum and fell. He incurred some major injuries and was unable to complete the project he was working on.

Cleaning Story #2

Since she was training for a 5K race, Betty Rubble decided to run up and down the stairs at her account to help strengthen her muscles. One of her coworkers encouraged her not to do that because it wasn't safe. Betty told her coworker that it was fine and that running on the stairs was also helping them get their work done faster. A week later, Betty was listening to her iPod while mopping the stairs. When she reached the bottom step, her cell phone rang so she ran up the stairs while turning her iPod off and taking the ear buds out. Betty slipped and fell. Her coworker heard the fall and went to help. She did not see a "Caution: Wet Floor" sign and assumed the steps were dry. She too slipped and fell but since she was holding onto the handrail and walking, she was not hurt as badly as Betty.

*For each completed safety quiz in
February, ESS will donate \$1 to the*



learn about the foodbank at www.eifoodbank.org

**Each month, 5 winners
get to choose a \$25 gift card to
either a restaurant, gas
station or Wal-Mart,
or choose certain ESS Apparel.**



**JANUARY
WINNERS**

Andrea Buell
Lynn Meek
Robyn Owens
Marilyn Taylor
Rhonda Waldner

JACKPOT PRIZES

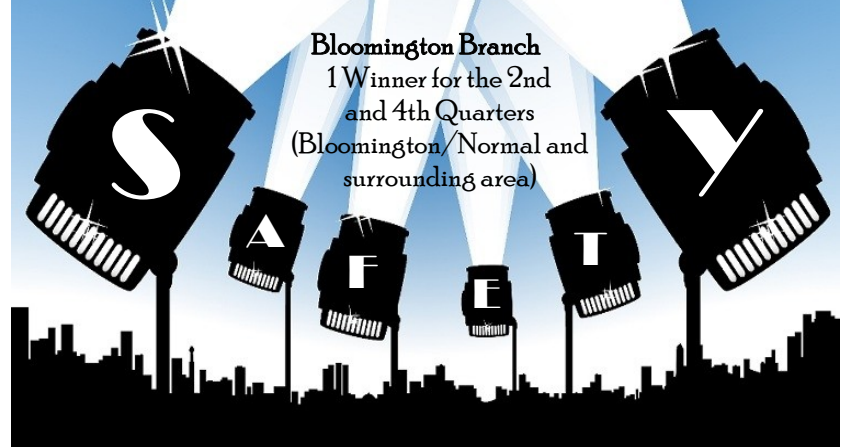
We will have 8 Jackpot winners this year!
Winners will get to choose from a list of prizes such as electronics, furniture, etc. worth \$400 - \$600!

CU Branch
1 Winner Each Quarter
(includes Champaign/Urbana, Decatur/Springfield area)

The 1st quarter winner will be drawn March 5th.

Effingham Branch
1 Winner for the 2nd and 4th Quarters
(includes Effingham/Mattoon, Assumption and surrounding area)

Bloomington Branch
1 Winner for the 2nd and 4th Quarters
(Bloomington/Normal and surrounding area)



SAFETY QUIZ

HOW TO SUBMIT SAFETY QUIZZES:

OPTION 1

Complete online by following this link:
<http://essclean.com/page/safety-incentive>.

OPTION 2

Bring it into the office or put in our outside drop box.

OPTION 3

Mail it in.

****DEADLINE**
02/28/13**

ESS Clean, Inc.
Attention: Anne
P.O. Box 17067
Urbana, IL 61803

Name _____ Employee # _____

1. What stairwell cleaning safety tip did Fred Flintstone forget about?

2. True or False: When vacuuming the stairs, you should start at the top and work your way down. (circle one)
3. Betty Rubble's coworker was not hurt badly because she followed which safety tip?
 - a) Always know where the last step is, so you don't fall.
 - b) Always put up a "Caution: Wet Floor" sign when mopping.
 - c) Use handrails and walk when going up/down stairs.
 - d) Never leave tools on the stairs.
4. Besides not running, name 2 tips you could tell Betty Rubble to help her work safely:

5. True or False: Like Fred Flintstone, you should always assume you're alone in your account. (circle one)
6. Which of the following is NOT a stairwell cleaning safety tip?
 - a) Talk on your cell phone while cleaning.
 - b) Never leave equipment on the stairs.
 - c) Minimize distractions.
 - d) When mopping, start at the top and work your way down.

