

# Laundromat Safety Checklist



You may already have policies and best practices identified for your business, but do they cover all potential areas that may pose safety risks? Please utilize the following checklist to reduce potential hazards in your laundromat.

## Fire

- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure lint traps are regularly emptied and cleaned. Consider putting up a sign that instructs customers to do this after every load.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Periodically check behind the machines to ensure plugs are secured and dust and lint are removed from the area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Install fire alarms in the interior of the business.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Keep fire extinguishers handy.

## Water

- \_\_\_\_\_ Install water leak detection devices
- \_\_\_\_\_ Monitor your water bill – any unexpected increases can be the result of a water leak.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ensure functioning and operational drains are installed and placed near washing machines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Check all washer hose connections to make sure they are secure, ensure hoses are in good condition and check for any clogs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ If you use front-loading washing machines, regularly clean the door seals and check for issues. Buildup can collect in the door seal, preventing it from shutting completely.

## Slips, Trips and Falls

- \_\_\_\_\_ Repair potholes, cracks and uneven surfaces in parking/sidewalk areas and staircases.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mop and clean the floors once your store closes to prevent slipping on wet surfaces.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Remove snow and ice promptly.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Apply rock salt to sidewalks and driveways three hours prior to and throughout a snowstorm. Keep rock salt and shovels easily accessible to you and your employees.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Consider installing appropriate stair treads on steps and/or laying down floor mats. These can help individuals maintain proper footing and lessen the amount of water tracked inside during inclement weather.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Use cones or signs to indicate wet floors due to inclement weather or mopping.

## Security/Theft Prevention

- \_\_\_\_\_ Install security cameras around the store and surrounding area to deter theft and vandalism from occurring.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Utilize credit or smart card vending systems. Less money sitting around your business means it's a less tempting target to potential criminals.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Take extra precautions while moving profits by varying dates and times you collect profits, checking the surrounding areas for suspicious activity and being quick and efficient when removing funds from machines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have adequate lighting installed in all public areas, such as parking lots.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Install emergency lighting and illuminated exit signs to assist patrons with exiting the premises in the event of an emergency.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Store and label cleaners properly. Whether it's soaps and detergents available for purchase or the cleaners you use to clean the laundromat floors, any chemically based substance should be stored in the proper containers and out of reach of children. Chemicals should be labeled so there's no confusion when employees and patrons are handling the products.