

37 Degrees



We all know water freezes at 32°F. But conditions for slippery surfaces can exist before the thermometer dips to the freezing mark.



AIR VS. GROUND

Temperatures at a thermostat above ground can be slightly warmer than at the surface, especially at night. That's why, if you see a thermostat that says 37°F, the ground may be 32°F.



COLD? CLEAR? CAUTION!

On clear or calm nights, surface temperatures cool more quickly as heat radiates away from the ground. Cold air near the ground is heavier, too, so it may persist even as air temps rise.



JUST DEW IT

The higher the dew point, the more water vapor is in the air. Warmer air holds water vapor more easily, so if the air cools enough, it can no longer hold moisture and may condense, creating ice crystals on cold surfaces.



IN THE FOG

Fog, which contains a lot of water, often forms on cold, clear nights. If a fog bank passes over a subfreezing surface, a thick coat of ice can appear in mere minutes.

BOTTOM LINE

37°F is a good reminder to start assessment and management of all your walking surfaces.

Learn more about how to avoid slip, trip and fall injuries from your MEMIC Safety Management Consultant.

And visit our Winter Safety resource page at memic.com/walksafe.

The MEMIC logo, consisting of the word "MEMIC" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a stylized underline.

