

ULTRA ACCESS Scaffolding Safety Alert

“April Showers” and the dangers of scaffolding in the rain...

“April Showers” a commonly known English proverb, with several credible sources saying that it relates back to an old English poem containing the line; *“Sweet April showers, do spring May flowers.”*

And working in the rain, whilst carrying out scaffolding operations is no joke... it can make the already dangerous task of building, adapting and dismantling a scaffold even more so, but now increasing the chances of slipping/tripping over whilst carrying materials, falling whilst traversing the scaffold - or even being struck by lightning.

Yes, we know the phrase *“wet steel no deal”* is often quoted, but this isn't always practical or possible for every scaffolder, especially when many scaffolders will not get paid for going home if its raining, and some could even lose their jobs for not making the effort of even turning up for work in severe rainstorms... rightly or wrongly it's a simple realistic **FACT** of the industry we're in.

So... let's be proactive.

Making sure that one has adequate safety and protective footwear - AND ones that are waterproof would be a hell of a good start.

No one likes working all day with wet feet - its uncomfortable and irritating, and prolonging this could lead to other issues like trench-foot, which could cause long term damage to ones feet.

For all the will in the world, you are not scaffolding with damaged feet...



Another proactive measure would be to use and deploy (when required) clothing that is either partially, or fully waterproof (however you might end up just as wet due to sweating with these items of clothing on), so its always worth researching yourself before spending your hard earned money on any kind waterproof trousers and jackets, etc.

And if waterproof jackets for instance are “not your thing”, a change of upper body clothing, like a fresh and dry t-shirt and/or top wrapped up in a plastic carrier bag - stored snugly in your kit bag, that could keep your “core” / upper body warm on the journey home would be highly advisable.

We cant always get out of working in the rain, as Britain unfortunately is known for its poor weather, but we can use a proactive approach and help make our lives as easy as possible by taking measures to lessen the risks of working in the rain.

ULTRA ACCESS
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