# A screen shot of a computer  Description automatically generatedWeather hazards in roofing

Weather presents many hazards which can be compounded when working outdoors and on a roof. We will look at some of the most common weather-related dangers when it comes to roofing.

*Potential hazards to address to address:*

* High winds can present many issues such as dust in eyes, instability while walking on the roof and creating dangerous situations regarding carrying large sheets of material that can act as a sail
* Heat plays a large role when referring to roof work due to being directly exposed to the elements as well as dealing with reflective heat
* Inclement weather also poses a significant threat with lightning, tornadoes as well as moisture causing a slick surface
* While usually less of an issue, extreme cold temperatures can pose their own issues as well such as frostbite, hypothermia and lessening dexterity

*Ways to prevent these hazards:*

* Stay up to date with weather forecasts and plan ahead
* Protect eyes, nose, and mouth from any blowing particles with appropriate personal protective equipment
* Ensure proper fall protection is in place and take extra caution with work done on edge of roof
* In high winds take extra care when moving large sheets of material by keeping them flat and utilizing team lifting
* Avoid working in the hottest times of the day, stay hydrated, wear full cover breathable clothing and take frequent breaks to cool off and avoid heat related stress and illness
* Stop work if there is lighting in the area or a tornado warning and take cover
* Do not work on a wet roof and always wear non-slip footwear such as boots made specifically for roofing
* In extreme cold temperatures dress in layers, protect extremities, use hand and feet warmers as needed as well as taking breaks to warm up