



SAFETY SNAPSHOT

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Safety on the Job...

STOP work for storms!

Remember, if lightning is spotted while working outdoors, stop work and take shelter. Wait at least 30 minutes after lightning strikes before returning to work. While waiting, tune in to local weather on the radio or on your phone. Monitor potential weather hazards a day in advance, or in the morning while preparing for the day to ensure you are ready!

NATIONAL SAFETY STAND DOWN: Preventing Falls in Construction



May 6 through May 10, 2019 is recognized as a national Safety Stand Down in our industry. Consider fall-related hazards on your jobsite and possible toolbox discussions to commemorate the event. According to NIOSH, falls accounted for more than 1/3 of the deaths in our industry in 2017. Think about all of the hazards you encounter on the jobsite on a daily basis, yet one-third of the deaths are caused by falls. Contact Safety for some great, current resources to share with your crews, peers, and families at home!

Left Lane Law Crack-Down

While it has been illegal to drive in the far left lane on highways and expressways in Illinois for several years, Illinois State Police are really starting to crack-down in 2019. Police will use 'covert vehicles' to catch drivers that remain or drive in the left lane, rather than passing slower moving vehicles.

Driving in the left line is an offense that could warrant a \$120 ticket, if that is your only offense! Important to note, commercial motor vehicles (trucks with a GVWR of greater than 10,000 lbs), are not permitted by state law to drive in the left lane unless emergency or construction traffic requires.



Emphasis on 'Scott's Law' ('Move Over Law')

Also attracting the attention of law enforcement is violators of 'Scott's Law', also known as the 'Move Over Law'. Since January 1, 2017 drivers should make an effort to move over and reasonably slow down for any vehicle stopped along a highway with warning

lights, emergency lights, or hazards on. If you are unable to safely move over, slow down while passing these stopped vehicles. Since January 1, 2019, 16 Illinois State Police officers have been killed on the roadside.

Summer PPE

As we head into the warm months of the year, summer PPE and Sqwencher is available in the Fastenal vending machines. Let Safety know if you have suggestions for stock items – summer PPE or otherwise!

Heavy equipment safety

- If you are not trained and confident in your abilities to operate a piece of Lindblad or rented equipment, STOP. Let your Crew Leader know; admitting you need help may prevent a significant incident or injury!
- Be careful when you mount or exit a piece of equipment; employees are often injured by slipping or misstepping when transitioning between ground and vehicle or equipment. Use three-points of contact.
- Use experienced, reliable spotters. Stop the equipment if the spotter is not visible or seems unengaged.
- Remember, communication is at the core of most injuries and incidents; communicate any concerns, unnoted hazards, or ideas for improvement with others on your jobsite!

**Second Quarter Safety Meeting to be held in May 2019;
keep an eye out for the formal invitation via email and paystub!**

...and off the Job...



Clean-up after contractors

Know how to properly handle debris or left-over chemicals used by contractors at your house; including how to store products, such as paint, that you intend to keep. Chemicals that may seem relatively harmless, such as wood staining gel, may require special disposal methods.

A local homeowner experienced a near miss in March 2019, when rags used

to clean-up wood stain were tossed into a garbage bag and moved to the garage. The bag caught on fire, and the homeowner was able to put the fire out without any injury or damage to the home.

For peace of mind, speak with contractors prior to starting work to determine who is responsible for left over chemicals, and if special precautions need to be taken.

Safe summer jobs

According to data provided by the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH), one teenage worker is injured on the job every nine minutes and the amount of 15 to 19 year old worker injuries requiring emergency room visits is 2.18 percent higher than workers 25 years and older. The industries (retail, food, hospitality) that teenagers often work in have unique hazards that may be overlooked. All workers have the right to be trained and to work in safe environments.

Recognize and avoid poisonous plants

Exposure to urushiol, the sap oil that is found on poisonous plants such as poison ivy, oak, and sumac, can cause swelling, itching, rash, and blisters. To prevent exposure, stay on the beaten path at parks, on trails, and other shady wooded areas with brush. Wear long pants, sleeves, and proper footwear when hiking or otherwise at risk of exposure. For first-aid treatment or to learn more regarding poisonous plants, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/plants/default.html>

Poison Ivy

Eastern poison ivy is typically a rope-like vine with three shiny green (or red in the fall) leaves budding from a single stem. Western poison ivy is typically more of a low shrub, with three leaves that do not vine. Western poison ivy may have small yellow or green flowers, or white, yellowish-green, or amber berries.

Remember: leaves of three – leave them be.



Poison Oak

Typically similar in appearance to western poison ivy (shrub, three leaves). Pacific poison oak may be vine-like. Poison oak also may have yellow or green flowers, or clusters of green-yellow or white berries.



Poison Sumac

Woody shrub that has stems of 7-13 pairs of leaves. Sumac may also have glossy, pale yellow, or cream colored berries.



Photos courtesy of U.S. Department of Agriculture

The history of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally accepted as 'Decoration Day', was first proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan to honor the soldiers that died during the American Civil War. Decoration Day was gradually accepted as and observed state by state, with Maine the first to

For more information on the many public holidays recognized throughout the US, visit publicholidays.us

declare it a legal holiday in 1874. Not until 1968 was Memorial Day formally recognized as a federal holiday, to take place on the last Monday of May each year moving forward. However you chose to celebrate the lives of those that have served our country, do so safely!

Call JULIE before you dig!

Remember to contact JULIE, or Digger if you live inside the city of Chicago, before getting your green thumb dirty this spring! Utility locating is the law, even on private properties such as back yards.



Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Suggestions for content you want to read about in the July-August 2019 issue?

Contact the Safety Department.