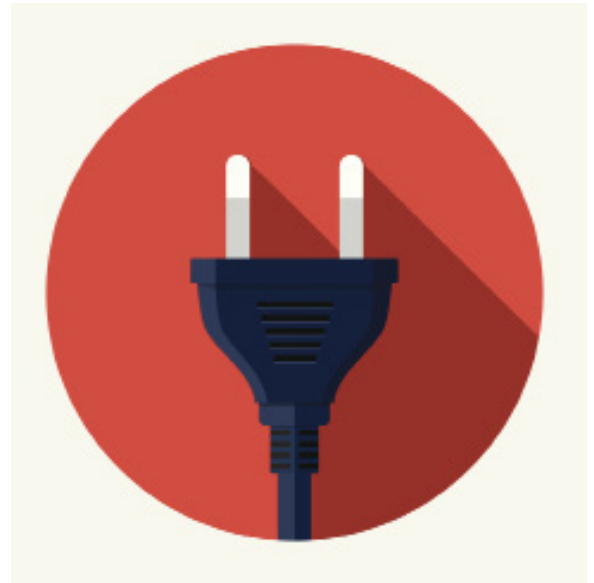


Safety Update

Ohio BWC Library

Electrical Safety Month

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) commemorates National [Electrical Safety Month](#). ESFI spearheads an annual campaign to educate key audiences about the steps everyone can take to reduce the number of electrically-related fires, fatalities, injuries and property loss. Resources on this important topic are available from the ESFI website, including the fourth edition of *Electrical Safety Illustrated*, the publication ESFI created for this campaign. This year's publication focuses on the National Electrical Code.



NIOSH/CDC News

Research Rounds Bulletin

The current [Research Rounds](#) monthly bulletin from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) contains articles about cardiovascular health, identifying some of the best and worst numbers by occupation, the low use of respirators on farms, prevention of winch injuries on boats and a new type of mine safety equipment for prevention of roof collapse.

Business Pulse Infographics

Two recent Business Pulse Infographics released by NIOSH present statistics related to motor vehicle safety at work and the opioid overdose epidemic. The [motor vehicle crash infographic](#) shows costs associated with crashes, a driving policy checklist and information on how businesses can take action to prevent these accidents. The [opioid infographic](#) describes four challenges facing employers, including the cost of opioid abuse and the side effects of taking opioids.

Hearing Loss Prevention Program Tools

Noise-induced hearing loss is still a common occupational disorder. Hearing loss programs have many required elements. Researchers at the University of Washington, University of Michigan and Yale University studied hearing loss prevention programs. Based on the study results, researchers created two tools for safety managers: a [checklist](#) to ensure compliance with hearing program requirements and a [calculator](#) to estimate the cost of these programs. You can find more information on the NIOSH [hearing loss prevention website](#).

Occupational Exposure Banding

Occupational exposure limits provide information about chemicals that help protect workers from overexposure to hazardous materials. The rate of production of new chemicals exceeds the ability to develop these exposure limits. NIOSH has proposed a method to categorize chemicals into one of five occupational exposure bands (OEB) to provide guidance on these chemicals until more specific exposure limits become available. Read about this new proposal on the [NIOSH website for OEB](#).

Distracted Driving

While April was [Distracted Driving Awareness Month](#), distracted driving is an issue all year round. This NIOSH website provides information on the main types of distractions, what we know about distracted driving and how to prevent distracted driving at your workplace. It also includes a distracted driving gif file that you can download and display on your website.

OSHA News

Video for Fall-Prevention Stand-Down Event

This [short video](#) featuring Scott Ketcham of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Directorate of Construction describes a fall he experienced early on in his career. The video makes an important statement about using fall protection and the lives it saves.

Young Worker Safety

Spring and summer are times when many young workers enter the workforce for the first time. OSHA has a [website dedicated to young worker safety](#). The page includes a poster employers can display at their workplace, specific information for young workers, employers and parents and educators, real-life stories of injuries, information on the types of hazards at typical youth worksites and resources for more information.

Silica Exposure Rule Delay

OSHA delayed the implementation of the Final Rule to Protect Workers from Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica until Sept. 23, 2017. The rule was to take effect in June 2017 for the construction industry. More information about this new rule is found on the [OSHA website](#).

Other News

Injuries in Work Zones

This [webpage from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) shows that 609 workers were killed or injured in roadway work zones from 2011 to 2015, 19 of them in Ohio. This puts us in the group with the largest numbers of these accidents. These accidents were primarily highway workers being struck by automobiles moving forward. As road construction season ramps up, keep your eyes focused on the road ahead of you and slow down in construction zones.

Weather and Storm Information

The National Library of Medicine has a [website dedicated to weather and storms](#). The website includes links to information about climate change and human health, extreme heat, floods and tornados. Each of these pages link to health information, worker and responder safety and cleanup and recovery materials.

Fall Protection Stand-Down Five-Day Plan

The Center for Construction Research and Training has a [five-day program](#) for this month's safety stand-down. The website has a program for each day of the week with programs, handouts and links to other sites related to fall protection. For more information on the National Stand-Down and BWC-sponsored events, read our [recent blog post](#).

Sleep Study

The National Center for Health Statistics published this [data brief on sleep duration and quality of sleep](#) as they relate to sex and family type. The results show that single parents with children under 18 have the lowest duration of sleep and the most difficulty falling asleep and staying asleep. Adults in two-parent families are less likely to take sleep aids than those in other types of families and women in all types of families are more likely to have trouble falling asleep and staying asleep.

Fall Injuries and Prevention in the Construction Industry

A [Data Report](#) from the Center for Construction Research and Training covers trends of fatal falls, fatal falls among construction subgroups, falls identified on location maps, nonfatal falls and fall prevention. The report concludes that falls increased after the economic recovery, fatalities occur more in residential construction, and older workers and Hispanic and foreign-born workers are at higher risk of falls.

Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities

The Governors Highway Safety Association released a report of [preliminary data](#) on pedestrian traffic fatalities by state. The number of fatalities has risen from 4,910 in 2014 to 5,997 in 2016 with pedestrian fatalities rising 20 percent since 2010. Ohio ranked under the national average rate of pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 of population.

Safety Standards Online

The BWC Library is often asked for information on safety standards. This [website](#) from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) contains links to standards that have been incorporated by reference in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations and are freely available for online reading. Links are provided to standards on the ANSI website as well as those hosted by other standard development organizations.

Please contact the library@bwc.state.oh.us or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.