

Safety Update

Ohio BWC Library

National Safety Stand-Down

A Safety Stand-Down is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about safety. This Stand-Down focuses on fall hazards and reinforces the importance of fall prevention. This year, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) goal is to reach five million workers with the National Safety Stand Down.



Fatalities caused by falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of death for construction workers, accounting for 345 of the 899 construction fatalities recorded in 2014. Fall prevention safety standards were among the top 10 most frequently cited OSHA standards, during fiscal year 2014.

NIOSH/CDC News

Hearing Impairment among Noise-Exposed Workers — United States, 2003–2012

This [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#) outlines a study done by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Occupational Hearing Loss Surveillance Project on noise-exposed workers. Findings show the mining sector had the highest prevalence of workers with any impairment (17 percent) and with moderate or worse impairment (3 percent), followed by the construction sector with any impairment (16 percent) and with moderate or worse impairment (3 percent), and the manufacturing sector (14 percent and 2 percent).

Job Stress

This month's [NIOSH Research Rounds](#) is all about job stress. Read articles about how job control and night shift work can affect stress and weight, and the relationship between job strain and stress hormones. (If you get an error with the address, make sure it translated with a # sign between the html and word intro at the end of the address, it doesn't show up that way with some fonts.)

OSHA News

OSHA's Final Rule to Protect Workers from Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica

OSHA has issued a final rule on silica exposure. The [new topic page](#) for this rule contains a link to the text of the rule, an overview of the rule, fact sheets for construction and general industry/maritime, FAQs, a video about the new rule and a [document outlining the changes to the standard](#).

OSHA Heat Illness Prevention

As we come to the summer months of the year, heat stress is an issue at indoor and outdoor work sites. [OSHA has a web page](#) filled with information on how to prevent heat stress in your employers. The site has information on prevention and symptoms, as well as a link to a heat safety tool smartphone app that you can use to calculate the heat index and risk index to workers.

You can order beat the heat cards that are wallet size with tips to remember for your employees by calling 614-466-0384.

Fall Tragedy

It sometimes takes a terrible accident to remind workers that their safety is the most important thing. This [blog post](#) describes a tragic fall that affected a young worker for the rest of his life. It is a terrible reminder of what can happen when safety is not first and why the National Safety Stand-Down is so important. These [statistics](#) from the Center for Construction Research and Training show the significant dangers of falls in the construction industry.

Other News

Free Webinar - Understanding and Implementing the New Construction Silica Standard

The Center for Construction Research and Training is presenting a webinar Thursday, May 19 at 2 p.m. on the new OSHA silica standard. Learn about key provisions in the new standard and a free planning tool to help contractors comply during this hour-long webinar. [Register here.](#)

Wellness Website

The University of Iowa, College of Public Health has a [Healthier Workforce Center for Excellence](#). The website provides a number of model policies, programs and practices, information on research on wellness topics, videos, and a monthly e-bulletin.

Spring Weather

Spring weather can be unpredictable, be ready for it! The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has a [website dedicated to spring weather](#). The site has infographics, presentations, videos and links to other weather safety websites. Topics include severe weather, tornadoes, floods and lightning.

Spring Issue of NIH Medline Plus

This quarterly publication of NIH and the Friends of the National Library of Medicine brings accurate and timely information on health topics to patients and consumers. You can read the [Spring issue from this link](#) or you can [subscribe](#) and have the print copy sent to you.

Mayo Clinic Survey

The first-ever [Mayo Clinic National Health Check-Up](#) explores the health behaviors and opinions of adults in the U.S. and how they vary by factors such as age, gender, geography and ethnicity. This snapshot shows what we think about our health and the future of health care.

Databases from National Library of Medicine

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) [Toxicology and Environmental Health Information Program](#) provides resources related to toxicology, environmental health and chemistry, most notably, [TOXNET®](#), an integrated database system of hazardous chemicals, toxic releases and environmental health and the [Household Products Database](#) of health and safety information on common chemical products used in the home.

Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders

The Institute of Work and Health (IWH) scientists conduct research and reviews on how to prevent musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) through ergonomics and other workplace programs. Musculoskeletal disorders refer to injuries of the muscles, ligaments and other soft tissues. This [IWH website](#) contains links to tools, articles, best practices and research about MSDs.

Pedestrian Deaths on the Rise

The Governors Highway Safety Association reports that the number of pedestrian fatalities in the United States increased 19 percent from 2009 to 2014, a period in which total traffic deaths decreased by about 4 percent. Pedestrians now account for the largest proportion of traffic fatalities recorded in the past 25 years. [Read the full report here.](#)

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