

# Safety Update

## Ohio BWC Library



### CONNECTING YOU to Safety & Health

Greater Columbus Convention Center

## Ohio Safety Congress & Expo 2019 (OSC19) registration opens Jan. 2

Do what more than 8,000 attendees did last year. Make your workplace safety and health connection at the Ohio Safety Congress & Expo March 6 to 8 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Attend OSC19 to:

- Find new ways to make your workplace safer and healthier.
- Discover the latest safety gear and services.
- Earn free continuing education credits.
- Build your workplace safety network.

Admission is FREE! Visit [www.ohiosafetycongress.com](http://www.ohiosafetycongress.com) for details.

### NIOSH/CDC News

#### Mold Assessment Tool

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) released two versions of a mold assessment tool for assessing [general buildings](#) and [school buildings](#). The document has a dampness and mold assessment form along with detailed information on how to use the form. The document also has several scoring examples.

#### Total Worker Health eNewsletter

The [NIOSH Total Worker Health newsletter for December](#) has articles on an award-winning program for police well-being from Bend, Oregon, six total worker health eLearning modules and many new publication links. Be sure to read this information-packed issue!

## Proposed Change to Beryllium Standard

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The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a proposed rule to revise the beryllium standard for general industry designed to clarify the standard, and to simplify or improve compliance with the standard. You can read the proposed changes and make comments on the [Federal Register website](#).

## OSHA Posters

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Looking for something to put on your breakroom bulletin board? OSHA has all its posters on [one page](#) for easy downloading. From cleaning chemicals to young workers, there is something for everyone.

## Stand-Up for Grain Safety Week Set for March 25-29, 2019

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OSHA and its Alliance partner, the National Grain and Feed Association, in cooperation with the Grain Elevator and Processing Society, will hold Stand-Up for Grain Safety Week, March 25-29, 2019. The event will focus on grain bin entry, machine guarding, respiratory protection, falls, heat, lockout/tagout, and other industry issues. Visit the [Stand-Up website](#) for more information on the national outreach campaign and how to hold your own event.

## Winter Weather Safety

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For tips on winter driving, work zone traffic safety, shoveling snow and more, visit the [OSHA Winter Weather, Plan, Equip, Train, Website](#). If you need training materials you can borrow videos on winter weather driving and safety from the [BWC Video Library](#).

## Other News

### Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2017

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The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released the [National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2017](#). The report shows the U.S. fatal injury rate decreased from 3.6 in 2016 to 3.5 per 100,000 full-time workers in 2017. Fatal falls were at their highest levels in the 26 years of the report, unintentional overdoses increased 25 percent from 2016 while crane-related fatalities were at their lowest ever recorded level. Ohio reported 174 fatalities and a fatality rate of 3.3, up slightly from 2016.

### Supervisor Support Impacts Injury Risks

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An [article](#) published in the journal Safety and Health at Work describes the impact of supportive supervisors and physical injury risks. The study shows workers experiencing exposure to hazards and unsupportive supervisors are 3.5 times more likely to experience physical injury than those not exposed to hazards and have supportive supervisors.

### Safety videos on YouTube

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Several agencies posted new safety videos on YouTube recently. The Federal Emergency Management Association added a [playlist of eight lifesaving skills videos](#) running about 30 seconds each. The micro-videos remind viewers to be ready for emergencies by thinking ahead, fixing electrical problems and preparing for power outages among other topics. The National Safety Council asks viewers to play a quick game of [Spot the Office Hazards](#) in 10 seconds or less. And the Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center posted short videos in both English and Spanish on [preventing needlestick injuries on both dairy and swine/hog farms](#).

## Reusable respirators effective for health care workers' protection

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A [report](#) from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine says half-facepiece reusable elastomeric respirators are an effective way of protecting health-care workers from exposure to airborne transmissible contaminants or infectious agents such as influenza virus for daily work or during public health emergencies. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention sponsored report finds reusable respirators are common in industrial settings. However, health-care facilities, which favor disposable respirators, rarely use them. The report outlines recommendations to implement a reusable respirator protection program, including training and processes for cleaning and disinfection.

## CPWR Webinar

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The Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) has an upcoming [construction safety webinar](#) titled Fatality Rates in Construction Vary 3-Fold: Do OSHA and Workers' Compensation Play a Role?. CPWR will hold the webinar at noon EST Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2019.

## Firefighter Fatalities

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The U.S. Fire Administration [yearly report on firefighter fatalities](#) reported 87 firefighters died on duty in 2017. This was four fewer than the previous year. The most common cause of death was stress/overexertion. Ohio had two firefighter deaths in 2017.

## U.S. Transportation Fatalities

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This [document](#) from the National Transportation Safety Board shows the total transportation fatalities in the U.S. in 2016 and 2017. Highway deaths make up 95 percent of all transportation deaths. The number of transportation deaths declined by 712 from 2016 to 2017.

## Home Cooking Fires Report

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The National Fire Protection Association released a [report on home cooking fires](#). The report states cooking was the leading cause of reported home fires and home injuries from 2012 and 2016. In addition, cooking was the second leading cause of home deaths during the same period. There was an average of 172,000 reported home cooking fires during that time with an average of 530 civilian deaths.

## Updated Commercial Motor Vehicles Safety Website

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Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration recently updated and renamed A Motor Carrier's Guide to Improving Highway Safety. The agency made it easier to search and customize the content by presenting it as an interactive website now called [The Motor Carrier Safety Planner](#). The administration designed the guide for companies operating commercial motor vehicles.