

Compliance Corner

NATIONAL

OSHA announced Sept. 28 the conclusion of its special evaluation of state-run occupational safety and health programs under the agency's jurisdiction. The Enhanced Federal Annual Monitoring and Evaluation reports provide detailed findings and recommendations on the operations of state-run OSHA programs in 25 states and territories. How does that effect us in Brunswick County? The Federal monitoring will review NC program for coverage in all areas of workplace safety.

STATE

The motorsports industry supports more than 27,000 jobs in North Carolina and contributes more than \$6 billion to the state's economy each year, according to the Governor's office. Since there are dozens of race tracks and drag strips across North Carolina, most of which have no safety requirements; the state is looking closer at what can be done to make the sport safer for participants and spectators.

LOCAL

There are 10 roadway projects under construction and 36 in development stages in Brunswick County. Speeding in designated work zones in North Carolina can result in a significant penalty of \$250 plus court costs and three driver license points. For roadwork updates, go to ncdot.gov click on projects.

Take a moment to give thanks for the technicians that rescued the miners trapped in Chile, the lives saved in the mine and the family celebrations that are occurring on the other side of the world as you read this!



Employee Flu Clinic Nurses
Jeanna Condron-Gwen Harrell



FALL BACK



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For Safety's Sake... Get Your House in Order

Winding down the year, we look to close things up by weatherizing our homes and cleaning up the workplace. Even when things are properly maintained and insulated, still cracks can appear that cause gaps where problems can occur. Take this time to get with your workgroup and look at these things you can do to fill in the gap.

Evacuation Planning...*In case of emergency, can you get out of the building safely?* Brunswick County strives to provide its employees with a safe and healthful work environment. In an effort to do this, the Fire Marshal recommends each department head create an evacuation plan for each area of responsibility. To create a plan that best works for each area of responsibility begin identifying the following;

1. Pre-appointed person(s) to immediately activate the building's alarm system and call 911.
2. All personnel and citizens must exit through stairs and doors, do not use elevators.
3. Assemble at a predetermined safe area (a minimum of 300 feet from the building).
4. Designate person to go to the intersection and direct firefighters.
5. Account for co-workers at safe area and notify authorities of anyone missing.
6. Re-enter the building only after firefighters permit.



By discussing these events before they occur, we invest in each other and develop a successful evacuation plan. For help in making your departments evacuation plan before you are required to demonstrate it in an unscheduled fire drill, (hint) email safetyreviewboard@brunSCO.net.

Keep Material Safety Data Sheets Updated...In order to ensure chemical safety in the workplace, a material safety data book must be at each workplace where chemicals are located. Chemical manufacturers are required to evaluate the hazards of the chemicals they produce or import, and prepare labels and material safety data sheets (MSDSs) to convey the hazard information to their customers. Where there are chemicals, there should be an MSDS book located for all to see, labels and training on the chemicals we use. Check out your workplace and see what, if any, chemicals are stored, used or purchased for your job. Talk it up at a department meeting...you may save a life.

Turn back clocks and check smoke detector batteries - 1st Sunday of November...The time change is part of a longstanding tradition, in which most Americans push their clocks ahead an hour in the spring ("spring forward") and turn them back an hour in autumn ("fall back"). The change officially takes place at 2 a.m. daylight saving time on Sunday, Nov. 1 (which instantly becomes 1 a.m. standard time). The idea behind daylight savings is to use the extended daylight hours during the warmest part of the year to best advantage. Not everybody goes along with the daylight-saving plan. Arizona and Hawaii, for example, stay on standard time all year round. This is a good time to change the smoke detector batteries. You should also change your batteries anytime your detector emits a low-power warning. If your smoke detector is more than 10 years old, you should replace the entire detector and not just the batteries.



Trivia Contest

Enter for a chance to win!

What are the 3 E's of Safety?

To be eligible for the next drawing, email your answers to: safetyreviewboard@brunscos.net

Trivia Answer from last edition

Question:

What is used to determine whether employees must wear personal protective equipment?

Answer:

OSHA requires a Job Hazard Analysis to determine what protective equipment employees must wear.

Congratulations to Kimberley McLean and Jacqueline Fulford for correctly answering last edition's trivia.



Operation Services & P&R Training



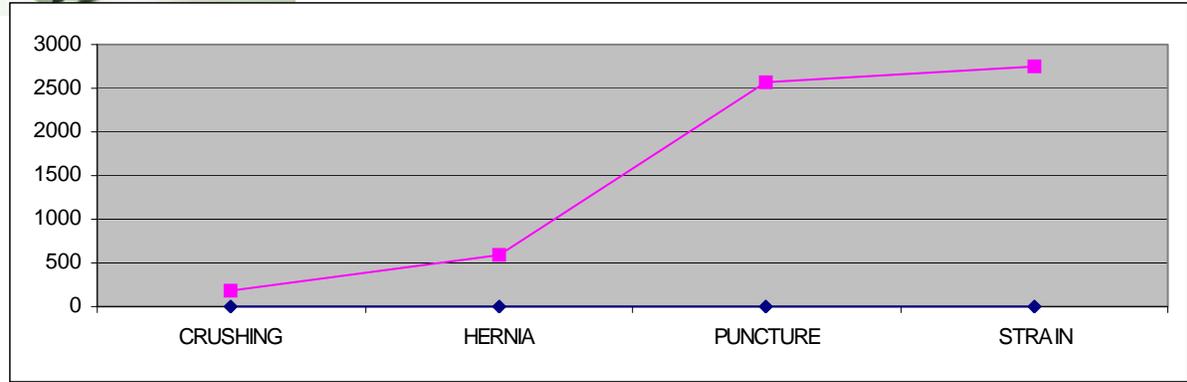
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Running late?
Slow down.
It is better
to get there
late, than not
at all.

A Safety Tip brought to you by your Safety Review Board.



Employee Injuries by Type (July—Sept. 2010)



The chart above shows the type and the costs of accidents the County employees experience frequently. We have more strains/sprains than any other type of workplace accident. This can be remedied by using the STAR approach during your workday. **STOP THINK ACT RESPOND.**

Stop & Think about the job you are doing - perform a quick assessment of the job required; the area in which to perform the work and the tools needed. Often times if we rush in, we are putting our body at risk for injury.

Actions that prevent strains and any other musculoskeletal disorders are an ongoing process, not a one time task. Practicing good posture while lifting, sitting and bending enhances our performance in everything we do.

Respond with skill, experience and information when you perform the job you are doing. It's your health and future, invest wisely!

Off The Wall Training...

Post this on the wall for everyone to see



Take Away Tips...Hand Tool Safety

Hammers, wrenches, chisels, pliers, screwdrivers, and other hand tools are often underrated as sources of potential danger. Hand tools may look harmless, but they are the cause of many injuries. In fact, an estimated 8 percent of all workplace compensable injuries are caused by incidents associated with hand tools. These injuries can be serious, including loss of fingers or eyesight.

To avoid such injuries, remember the following safety procedures:

1. Use the right tool for the job. Don't use your wrench as a hammer
2. Don't use broken or damaged tools, dull cutting tools, or screwdrivers with worn tips.
3. Cut in a direction away from your body.
4. Make sure your grip and footing are secure when using large tools.
5. Carry tools securely in a tool belt or box. Don't carry tools up ladders. Use a hoist or rope.
6. Keep close track of tools when working at heights. A falling tool can kill a co-worker.
7. Pass a tool to another person by the handle; never toss it to them.
8. Use the right personal protective equipment (PPE) for the job. Follow company instructions for selecting and using safety eyewear, steel toed shoes, gloves, hard hats, etc.
9. Never carry sharp or pointed tools such as a screwdriver in your pocket.
10. Select ergonomic tools for your work task when movements are repetitive and forceful.
11. Be on the lookout for signs of repetitive stress. Early detection might prevent a serious injury.
12. Always keep your tools in top condition. A dull blade or blunt point can lead to injury.
13. Store tools properly when you stop work.



Excerpt from TOOLBOXTOPICS.COM

- Oct. 19 — FIT Testing for all employees required to wear respirators.
- Email the Safety Review Board to schedule your departmental training for Oct., Nov. & Dec.
- Don't forget to visit the new INTRANET SITE to view the safety training calendar!