

Compliance Corner NATIONAL

OSHA Fatal Four.....listed below are the most frequent safety infractions cited by OSHA. Decreasing these type accidents increases your health!

- * Falls
- * Electrocutions
- * Struck by Object
- * Caught-in/between

STATE

Governor's campaign for safety kicked off in Raleigh with this slogan. In an effort to promote cyclist and pedestrian safety, the Governor's office is raising awareness on the roadway. For more details visit:

watchformenc.org.

I for bikes.



LOCAL

Brunswick County has over 5 major highway projects currently in progress. These projects overlap into Pender, New Hanover and Columbus counties. Be alert on the roads; school is in session and construction is underway in every part of the county.



this issue

- Compliance Corner **P.1**
- For Safety's Sake **P.1**
- Safe Track **P.2**
- Upcoming Events **P.2**
- Safety Zone **P.2**
- Upcoming Training **P.2**
- Off The Wall Training **P.2**
- 2013 Safety Training Calendar **P.2**



For Safety's Sake... First Case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)

By Fred Michael, PIO for Brunswick County Health and Human Services



The North Carolina Department of Agriculture confirmed the death of a horse in Brunswick County at the beginning of July. This was the first confirmed case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in the State for 2013. "County residents need to be aware these mosquito borne illnesses can be prevented by taking personal protection measures," said Brunswick County Health Director David Stanley. "Eastern Equine Encephalitis is a very rare but serious disease and can result in lengthy illnesses, hospitalization, disability and even death," he added.

Jeff Brown, Brunswick County's Vector Control Supervisor, said the mosquitoes that spread EEE are species that are found in fresh water floodplains or saltwater marshes. "The mosquitoes that spread EEE aren't normally breeding in containers. That means you should pay particularly close attention to avoiding mosquito bites at all costs," he said. He also urges all horse owners to check with their veterinarians to make sure their horses are properly vaccinated for both Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus.

With all the rain this year everyone needs to take the appropriate precautions to protect themselves and their pets. Mr. Stanley urges residents to wear light-colored long-sleeved shirts and long pants, apply mosquito repellent and avoid being outside at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active. "We just can't stress this message enough – you need to be careful, taking every possible precaution to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes," he concluded.

EEE is a rare disease, but can occur in humans and horses. The viral illness, transmitted by some kinds of mosquitoes, attacks the central nervous system, causes inflammation of the brain and can be fatal to animals and humans. Wild birds serve as natural hosts for the virus. Mosquitoes bite the birds and then can transmit the virus to humans and animals. A person cannot catch EEE from another person.

North Carolina averages about one human EEE case each year. Young children and the elderly are most likely to contract EEE. Symptoms can develop from a few days to two weeks after being bitten by an infected mosquito. They include rapid onset of fever and headache and can resemble a case of the flu. Survivors of EEE infections may suffer from long-term effects to the nervous system. Therapy is limited to treating the symptoms of the disease, but there is no specific cure. There is a vaccine for horses but no vaccine for humans currently exists. Be sure to protect yourself from mosquito bites.

SAFE TRACK

Worker Safety Overview - table compares Jan to Aug in 2013 to the same time in 2012

Calendar Year	# of Employee Injury Reports	Cost of Injuries
2013 (8 months)	61	\$ 39,358
2012 (8 months)	41	\$ 171,032

2013	Most Frequent Employee Injury	Total Cost
	Strain Lifting	\$ 10,527
	Caught in or between	\$ 6,804
	Fall or slip	\$ 6,183

The increase in the number of claims with a decrease in cost for 2013 shows the reporting and return to work processes are supporting employees. Brunswick County employees have less lost time from day to day activities and a healthier workplace! Continue to inspect workplaces for hazards especially, where the potential to strain or fall is present.

This section is geared toward information shared such as tips, slogans, trivia and ideas to keep us fast tracked to safety. Send in your expert advice, opinions or your own near miss experience to safetyreviewboard@brunscoco.net.

Many thanks to our readers for participating in trivia and sending in notes or pictures to share with our workforce.



Water & Wastewater Continuing Education

November 7, 2013

To register, contact:

Susan McLamb

smclamb@brunscoco.net

Hazard Communications Updates - December 1, 2013

is the target date for training employees, who are exposed to chemicals, on the updates to Hazard Communications. Exposure to hazardous chemicals is one of the most serious threats facing American workers today, retraining employees will promote worker safety. Contact egardner@brunscoco.net to schedule your training.

Off The Wall ...Training for your next safety meeting

Post this on the wall for everyone to see



Annual Health Fair & Expo
Sponsored by
Health & Human Services
Saturday, September 14th

Free health screenings, blood pressure checks, diabetes screening, bone density, and vascular ultrasounds and much more. Look for more information on the Intranet.

Take Away Tips...Hand Tool Safety

Over 8% of all injured workers in the U. S. experience injuries where hand tools produce a hazard. Eye Injuries, burns, lacerations are just a few of the injuries caused by hand tools. Manual hand tools or powered, present a hazard and should be respected always and inspected before each use. Here are some discussion points for your next department meeting:

Manual or Power

Check the condition of the tool. Look for any signs of damage, excess wear or crimps. If you can see bare wire on a power tool, do not use it. Also, make certain all guards and protective equipment are in place before using the tool.

Use Proper PPE

The proper personal protective equipment (PPE) must be used at all times. With the use of almost any hand tool, you should use protective eyewear. In many cases, hearing protection and gloves are required in order to provide maximum protection. Depending on the work environment, safety shoes as well as hard hats may also be required.

Pay Attention

Do not allow yourself to be distracted when operating a power hand tool. Tools can slip and fall as well as employees. Pay close attention to your work, and should someone distract you, stop working until you are able to give your task your undivided attention. Distracted workers quite often become injured workers!



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Employee Flu Shots

Flu shots will be available for employees on September 17th at the Employee Wellness Clinic. Remember to bring your ID and Insurance card.



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

BRUNSWICK COUNTY SAFETY TRAINING CALENDAR

Month	Level I	Level II	Contact Person	Contact #
September	All Departments	Occupation Specific		
	Hand Tool Safety	Confined Spaces Machine Guarding	Ronald Moore Bryan Hollis	253.2680 253.2509
October	Flammables & Combustibles	Flammables and Combustibles	John Winders	253.2572
November	Electrical Safety	LOTO	Eileen Gardner	253.2078
December	Safety Review	Plant Safety Review	All Members	

Additional safety training is provided at the request of the department head. Driver training can be done throughout the year at employee orientation. Email safetyreviewboard.net for more information.

Email safetyreviewboard@brunscoco.net to schedule your department's training!