

Summit County Safety Council Newsletter

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 19, 2008—11:45 a.m.

Regular Meeting at Tangier

Featuring Tim Dimoff

SACS Consulting

Workplace Bullying...

Consequences and Solutions

Hand Injuries interfere With Your Life

Safety Smart October 13, 2008

If you have ever had a hand injury such as a fracture or a serious cut, you have some idea how inconvenient it can be. Your injury probably healed and your life returned to normal.

But stop and think what your life would be like with a permanent hand injury. You'd have difficulty performing thousands of everyday tasks you now take for granted. It would be tough to button your own shirt, let alone do your job.

Every year industrial workers suffer an estimated 100,000 hand injuries. Many of these are permanently disabling - amputation, burns and crushing injuries.

Untie your shoe. Now try to tie it without using your thumbs.

The workplace is full of hand hazards - moving machinery, hot equipment, sharp hand tools and corrosive chemicals. You have to stay alert at all times and take all precautions to prevent injuries.

Consider these hand safety guidelines:

- Follow safe work practices at all times. Review the manufacturer's instructions before operating tools and equipment.
- Use lockouts so equipment cannot move when you are doing maintenance and adjustments.
- Use push sticks, tongs and other tools to handle materials so your hands do not come into contact with moving machinery or harmful chemicals.
- Make sure machine guards are in place before operating equipment. Watch for pinch points.
- Gloves must fit properly. Loose fitting gloves often contribute to hand injuries. Wear the correct gloves to guard against the specific hazards you encounter.

Gloves are also the last line of defense against contact with harmful chemicals. They must be made of material which has been proven effective against the specific hazardous substance. This includes natural rubber, neoprene, nitrile or butyl synthetic rubber, or various plastics such as polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or polyethylene. Gloves made of the wrong material may be subject to deterioration and leakage when exposed to a chemical.

Hand accidents can be minor such as a thumb hit by a hammer. Or they can be terrible - a hand caught and crushed in pair of rollers or cut off by a spinning blade. Be on guard for hand hazards!

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Reminders

There are still a few spots open for the OSHA Recordkeeping Class on Thursday, December 4, 2008 at Chenoweth Country Club in Akron. The class will begin at 8:30 a.m. and last approximately 3 hours. Cari Gray, Industrial Safety Consultant with BWC will be instructing the class. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. Cost is \$15.00 per attendee. Attendance at this class will qualify as one safety council meeting credit per policy for BWC's Safety Council Discount Program. Contact Sally Cox at scox@neo.rr.com to register for this class.

Who should attend - Individuals responsible for OSHA recordkeeping within a company with more than ten employees. You will learn:

- OSHA recordkeeping requirements for workplace injuries and illnesses;
- Correct use of the required OSHA recordkeeping forms (300 and 300A);
- Guidelines for recordable and non-recordable workplace injuries and interpretations;
- How to determine and compare injury and illness rates

If you are a public entity, you fall under PERRP jurisdictions and are still required to complete (and submit annually) the PERRP logs, which have the same general guidelines and logic as the OSHA requirements.



Last call for flu vaccinations. Summit County Safety Council is offering flu vaccinations to its members at a reduced cost of \$15.00 per immunization during our regular meeting on November 19, 2008. Contact Sally Cox at scox@neo.rr.com by Monday, November 17th if interested.



There are still openings for the CPR/First Aid training classes on November 18th and December 2, 2008 at Chenoweth Country Club. These classes will include CPR / First Aid / Bloodborne Pathogens and AED training. Cost is \$45.00 per participant. Class will begin at 9:00 a.m. until approximately 3:30 p.m. Breakfast and lunch are included. Dianna Kane with Affirmed First Aid and Safety will be the instructor for these classes. **Dianna is certified as an Emergency Care Instructor by the National Safety Council.** Participants will receive a workbook, comprehensive reference guide and DVD. Attendance at either class will qualify for a maximum of one safety council meeting credit per policy number for BWC's Safety Council Discount Program. Contact Sally Cox at scox@neo.rr.com to register.

SAFETY RULES ARE YOUR BEST TOOLS

This month's winner of the Safety Slogan Contest is Mike Wallace of Evant, Inc.. Mike's slogan "**SAFETY RULES ARE YOUR BEST TOOLS**" was selected by the Executive Committee. Mike will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate for his winning slogan. Congratulations Mike!

Please continue to submit your safety slogans to Sally Cox at scox@neo.rr.com. Each month's winner will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate. The winning slogan will be printed in the newsletter and projected at the monthly meeting. Slogans are selected one month prior to announcement. If your slogan is not selected it remains in the pool for future months.

News From BWC

BWC Leads Safety Seminar for Group Rating Sponsors

BWC announced it is strengthening efforts to promote workplace safety within Ohio's group rating program by pairing BWC safety consultants with group sponsors to assist in the development of an appropriate safety program.

BWC made the announcement at a safety seminar for group rating sponsors. The sponsors are responsible for ensuring the development of health and safety programs and promoting workplace safety among employers within their groups.

Each year, group rating sponsoring organizations are required to provide a minimum of eight hours of safety training for employers within their group. To assist the sponsors in educating their members, each organization is linked with professionals in BWC's Division of Safety and Hygiene to assist in evaluating strategies for augmenting safety communication and training within their groups.

BWC consultants will work with sponsors to provide technical information, occupational safety and health resources, assess safety training needs and recommend solutions.

BWC Reform Update

As part of its ongoing rate-reform efforts, BWC presented the following rate-capping strategy to the BWC Board of Directors at its October actuarial committee meeting. If enacted, the rate caps will take effect for the policy year beginning July 1, 2009.

A 100-percent, year-to-year experience modification (EM) cap to mitigate significant increases from one policy year to the next: This cap will limit the increase in an individual employers' EM due primarily to changes in experience-rating history or group-rating membership. Any EM increase for an individual employer will be limited to, or capped at no more than 100 percent of the previous year's EM.

A 30-percent, within-year EM cap to mitigate increases due solely to the July 1, 2009, credibility reductions: This cap will limit the financial impact involved with increasing the EM from an 85-percent maximum credibility table to a 77-percent maximum credibility table. There will be a 30-percent limit, or cap on any EM increase resulting solely from this credibility table change.

Options Available for Troubled Employers

The Flexible Payment Plan (FlexPay) provides employers with an alternative method of paying their premium by allowing them to pre-pay online and receive discounts for early payment. Private state-fund employers with active coverage are eligible to participate in FlexPay regardless of their participation in BWC alternative rating/discount programs.

The 50/50 program is available to employers who wish to report their total payroll and pay half their premium due by February 28 and the remaining 50 percent by May 1. Employers must enroll in the 50/50 program and must not be enrolled in FlexPay.

Upcoming Events

November 18, 2008

First Aid/CPR Training
Chenoweth Country Club



November 19, 2008

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Tim Dimoff

SACS Consulting

Workplace bullying...
Consequences and
solutions

Flu Vaccinations



December 2, 2008

First Aid/CPR Training
Chenoweth Country Club



December 4, 2008

OSHA Recordkeeping
Class
Chenoweth Country Club



December 17, 2008

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Holiday Luncheon
Semi-Annual Report
Overview



January 21, 2009

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Holly Harlan
Sustainability

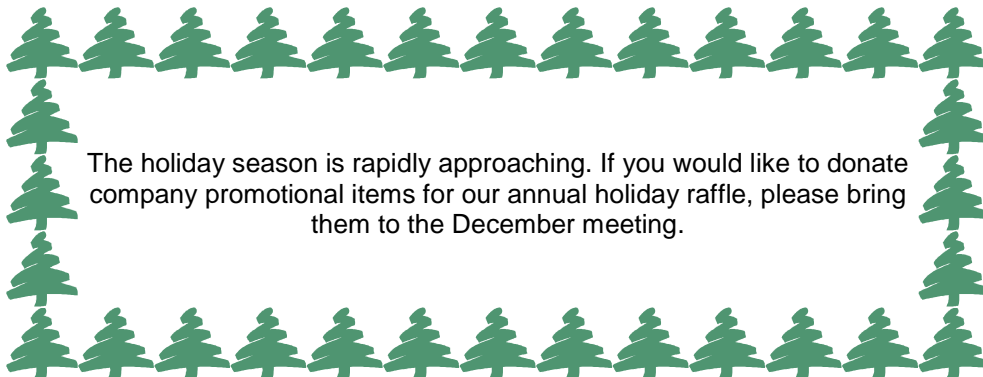
**Summit County Safety Council
Celebrating 60 years
1949—2009**

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote safety/accident prevention in the workplace by offering informational and educational opportunities to both the private and public sectors within the community.

Meetings the third Wednesday of every month at 11:45 a.m. at Tangier

Sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation



The holiday season is rapidly approaching. If you would like to donate company promotional items for our annual holiday raffle, please bring them to the December meeting.

Become a Summit County Safety Council Meeting Sponsor

Thank you to last month's sponsor, MEDGroup.

Spotlight your company by becoming a SCSC meeting sponsor. A sponsorship fee of \$200.00 entitles you to 5 minutes of commercial speaking time, a reserved table for display items, 2 pre-paid lunches and your corporate logo published in the SCSC newsletter and projected at the meeting you sponsor. Contact Sally Cox for more information at 330-806-1676 or scox@neo.rr.com.