Protecting Workers from Heat Stress

Exposure to heat can cause illness and death. The most serious heat illness is heat stroke. Other heat illnesses, such as heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat rash, should also be avoided. There are precautions employers should take any time temperatures are high and the job involves physical work.

To Prevent Heat Illness, Employers Should
- Establish a complete heat illness prevention program.
- Provide training about the hazards leading to heat stress and how to prevent them.
- Provide a lot of cool water to workers close to the work area. At least one pint of water per hour is needed.
- Modify work schedules and arrange frequent rest periods with water breaks in shaded or air-conditioned areas.
- Gradually increase workloads and allow more frequent breaks for workers new to the heat or those that have been away from work to adapt to working in the heat (acclimatization).
- Routinely check workers who are at risk of heat stress due to protective clothing and high temperature.
- Consider protective clothing that provides cooling.

How You Can Protect Yourself and Others
- Know signs/symptoms of heat illnesses; monitor yourself; use a buddy system.
- Block out direct sun and other heat sources.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Drink often and BEFORE you are thirsty. Drink water every 15 minutes.
- Avoid beverages containing alcohol or caffeine.
- Wear lightweight, light colored, loose fitting clothes.

What to Do When a Worker is Ill from the Heat
- Call a supervisor for help. If the supervisor is not available, call 911.
- Have someone stay with the worker until help arrives.
- Move the worker to a cooler/shaded area.
- Remove outer clothing.
- Fan and mist the worker with water; apply ice (ice bags or ice towels).
- Provide cool drinking water, if able to drink.

IF THE WORKER IS NOT ALERT or seems confused, this may be a heat stroke. CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY and apply ice as soon as possible.
Mark Your Calendar  
**July 20, 2016**  
11:30 a.m.  
Regular Meeting —  
Tangier’s  
Cost—$17.00

**Upcoming Seminars**

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**First Aid, CPR, AED, Bloodborne Pathogen Training**  
**September 22, 2016 and October 25, 2016**  
6 hour class at Tangier’s  
Instructed by John Shull of Shull Medical Educators  
(ASHI Certified)  
Cost $20 (includes lunch)  
RSVP to Sally

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**July’s Featured Program…**

Howie Eberts  
Area Director, OSHA Cleveland Area Office  

OSHA Enforcement Updates

This presentation will cover:

- OSHA inspection statistics and results  
- Recent significant OSHA enforcement actions  
- Results from a study of OSHA fatality inspections  
- OSHA’s enforcement plans and initiatives for the upcoming year

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***BWC TRUE UP****

Be sure you True-up with the BWC online to ensure you can continue to participate in the Safety Council Rebate Program and receive future rebates and discounts.

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**Best Practice from a Safety Council Member…**

It’s always great to share great safety “finds”! A safety council member wanted to share the following information because it has been so beneficial for them.

It’s the LED Forklift Approach Warning Light. They purchased the device from Fastenal. This Forklift Safety Light alerts pedestrians of forklifts approaching blind corners or forklifts entering and exiting trailers. The Blue LED light projects an intense spotlight 10 to 20 feet ahead of the forklift to alert the pedestrian of nearby traffic. The Forklift Approach Warning Light can be installed on the front or back of any forklift, sweeper or any other piece of industrial equipment. There are multiple types and colors available. They really like these because they have electric forklifts which are very quiet. The members states: “I keep thinking of all the pedestrian fatalities I have heard about involving forklifts and if pedestrians can have that 20 ft. bright blue warning light… how many lives might be saved.”

Thanks for the tips and if you have something to share – just let the Safety Council Manager know!
Cari’s Safety Corner

Q: What does my company need to do to comply with OSHA’s Bloodborne Pathogen Standard?

A: The employer must develop an exposure control plan which outlines the protective measures an employer will take to eliminate or minimize employee exposure to blood and OPIM. The exposure control plan will apply to all employees who are trained and designated as responsible for rendering first aid as part of their job duties and therefore may have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM).

Reviewed annually, the following is a brief outline of an exposure control plan:

☐ Identifies which employees, job titles or tasks, etc. put the employee at risk to BBP or OPIM

☐ Details the procedures for evaluating the circumstances surrounding exposure incidents;

☐ A schedule of how other provisions of the standard are implemented, including methods of compliance, hepatitis B vaccination and post-exposure evaluation and follow-up, communication of hazards to employees, and recordkeeping;

☐ Methods of compliance include:
  - Universal Precautions
  - Engineering & work practice controls (safer medical devices, sharps containers, hand hygiene)
  - Personal protective equipment
  - Housekeeping, including decontamination procedures and removal of regulated waste

☐ Documentation of:
  - the annual consideration and implementation of safer medical devices designed to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure, and
  - Review with non-managerial healthcare workers (who are responsible for direct patient care and are potentially exposed to injuries from contaminated sharps) in the identification, evaluation, and selection of effective engineering and work practice controls.
New OSHA Final Rule on Workplace Injury and Illness Reporting

On Thursday May 12, 2016, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses. The new rule takes effect Jan. 1, 2017, and requires certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness data that they are already required to record on their onsite OSHA Injury and Illness forms. Some of the data will also be posted to the OSHA website. See OSHA’s website for the text of the rule, a fact sheet, FAQs, press release and blog posts about the site.

Upcoming BWC Class Schedule (North Canton)
339 E. Maple St., Suite 200
North Canton, OH 44720
Register at bwclearningcenter.com

NFPA 70E and You: Insight and Implementation: August 25 Full Day

Non-violent Strategies for Caregivers and Other Staff Working Directly with the Public: September 8 Full Day

Accident Analysis Workshop: September 22 Half Day a.m.

Bloodborne Pathogens: September 22 Half Day p.m.

Controlling Costs through Claims Management: October 4

FY17 BWC Safety Council Rebate Program Requirements

For those members who are eligible to participate in BWC’s Safety Council Rebate Program this year, the following requirements must be met between 7/1/16 and 6/30/17:

- Enrollment with safety council by 7/31/16.
- Attendance at 10 Safety council meetings/events. At least 8 thru the local safety council. You can get credit for up to two meetings at BWC’s safety training courses or other offsite industry-specific training courses./seminars. Certificate must be submitted to safety council.
- CEO attendance at one safety council sponsored meeting.
- Submit semi-annual reports for the 2016 calendar year.