

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Cal/OSHA Reminder| Protecting Employees from Wildfire Smoke

Employers must take steps to protect their workers from harmful exposure to unhealthy air due to wildfire smoke.

When wildfire smoke affects a worksite, employers must monitor the air quality index (AQI) for PM2.5. If the AQI for PM2.5 is 151 or greater, employers must take the following steps to protect employees:

- Inform employees of the AQI and protective measures available to them.
- Provide training and instruction on the information contained in section 5141.1 Appendix B.
- Implement modifications to the workplace to reduce exposure. Examples include providing enclosed structures or vehicles for employees to work in.
- Implement practicable changes to work procedures or schedules. Examples
 include changing the location where employees work or reducing the
 amount of time they work outdoors or exposed to unfiltered outdoor air.
- Provide proper respiratory protection equipment

To filter out fine particles, respirators must be labeled N-95, N-99, N-100, R-95, P-95, P-99, or P-100, and must be labeled as approved by NIOSH.



National Safety Stand-Down | Preventing Falls in Construction

A Safety Stand-Down is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about safety. Any workplace can hold a stand-down by taking a break to focus on "Fall Hazards" and reinforcing the importance of "Fall Prevention". Employers of companies not exposed to fall hazards, can also use this opportunity to have a conversation with employees about the other job hazards they face, protective methods, and the company's safety policies and goals. It can also be an opportunity for employees to talk to management about fall and other job hazards they see.

If your company participates, please share your experience with us to be featured in the next newsletter. Send photos or stories to communications@centralvalley.assp.org

For more information, visit <u>stopconstructionfalls.com</u>

or osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown

Member Milestones

New Members

Jon Lowe

Sarah Johnson

15 Year Member

Larry Day

Upcoming Events

Chapter Meeting

Please visit centralvalley.assp.org and select the "Events" tab to find the link to virtual meetings.

COVID-19, the IIPP & Cal/OSHA

Speaker: Dan Leiner (Cal/OSHA) 09/24 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Member Achievements

If you achieved a safety certification or job promotion, we want to know about it! Please send information to communications@centralvalley.assp.org







Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today.

September Safety Topic | Disaster Preparedness

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster planning now and throughout the year. As our nation continues to respond to COVID-19, hurricanes, and fires, there is no better time to be involved this September. This is a great opportunity to take safety home. Disasters can happen anywhere; make sure you are prepared at your place of work and in your home.

The 2020 NPM theme is: "Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today." For more information and resources, visit www.ready.gov/september

OSHA National News Release | U.S. Department of Labor Releases Work-Related Injury and Illness Data

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has released work-related injury and illness data electronically submitted by employers. The agency has posted Form 300A data for calendar years 2016, 2017 and 2018, as well as a data dictionary.

Electronic submissions are required of establishments with 250 or more employees that are currently required to keep OSHA injury and illness records, and establishments with 20-249 employees that are classified in specific industries with historically high rates of occupational injuries and illnesses.

The fact that an employer provided data does not mean that the employer is at fault, that the employer has violated any OSHA requirements, that OSHA has found any violations, or that the employee is eligible for workers' compensation or other benefits.

For more information, and a link to the Injury Tracking Application, visit the <u>Injury Tracking Application Electronic Submission of Injury and Illness Records to OSHA</u>.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to help ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

