

Safety Update

Ohio BWC Library



Winter Holiday Safety

The winter holidays create unique safety risks. Holiday décor and candles can create fire risks, traveling in winter weather can be hazardous, food safety is important at holiday meals, and toy safety is important at gift-giving occasions. The National Fire Protection Association's [Winter Holidays](#) website contains safety tip sheets and information on tree and decoration fires. The National Safety Council's [Holiday Safety](#) website has travel, decoration, food, toy, and fire safety tips.

NIOSH/CDC News

Driving Fatigue

A major cause of vehicle accidents is fatigued drivers. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that drowsy driving was responsible for 72,000 crashes, 44,000 injuries, and 800 deaths in 2013. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has a [website](#) with information on this topic that includes an animated image, fact sheets, and tips for employers and workers to prevent fatigue on the job.

NIOSH eNews

The November 2019 issue of [NIOSH eNews](#) contains articles on National Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Awareness Month, abstracts of research performed by NIOSH researchers, links to new publications and blog posts, and a calendar of upcoming events.

OSHA News

Holiday Workplace Safety

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) webpage on [holiday workplace safety](#) in the merchandising sales sector contains links to information for order fulfillment, delivery, retail sales, and general employees.

Ionizing Radiation

If you work around sources of ionizing radiation such as radioactive materials or X-ray equipment, OSHA has a [newly revised website](#) on this topic. Find information on standards, health effects, hazard recognition, control and prevention, and additional resources.

Other News

New Toolbox Talks

The Center for Construction Research and Training released three new [Toolbox Talks](#) in English and Spanish on topics regarding nanoengineered materials, including:

- Identifying Nano-Enabled Construction Materials.
- Introduction: Nano-Enabled Construction Materials.
- Prevent Exposure: Nano-Enabled Construction Materials.

New Safety Podcast

Occupational Health and Safety Magazine has a new podcast called the [OH&S SafetyPod](#), which plans to cover a variety of topics. The first episode discusses safety culture, and the second discusses effective safety training.

More Effective Safety Training

Looking for tips on how to create and deliver better safety training? This [article](#) from The American Society of Safety Professionals has four tips you can use. There is a link to a podcast on the subject as well.

Workplace Injury Data Released

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released its [Employer-Reported Workplace Injuries and Illnesses – 2018](#) report in early November. The report shows there were 2.8 million nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses reported by private industry employers in 2018. This is the first year since 2012 that the total numbers and incident rate did not go down. Retail trade was the only sector with a rise in reportable cases.

Electrical Safety Alert

In the wake of three fatalities, the Mine Safety and Health Administration issued an [Electrical Safety Alert](#). The alert describes the three incidents and provides tips on prevention of electrical accidents.

Safety Video Series

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work sponsors a video series featuring a character called Napo to educate workers on topics in safety and health. The videos are silent and so language-neutral. The [most recent videos](#) in the Napo series help employees understand musculoskeletal disease.

Winter Safety

The National Safety Council issued a list of [winter safety tips](#) on topics such as winter driving, snow shoveling, and frostbite. Stay safe this winter!

Worker Health and Well-Being

U.S. Surgeon General Jerome M. Adams published an article titled, [The Value of Worker Well-Being](#) in Public Health Reports, the official journal of the Office of the Surgeon General and the U.S. Public Health Service. The article describes how work can influence well-being and what strategies employers can take to improve employees' happiness and wellness.

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