



Hudson River Valley Chapter Newsletter

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Useful & Helpful Links

<http://www.assp.org>

Link to the National ASSP webpage for information on great topics in EH&S. Go look things up.

<http://hudsonrivervalley.assp.org>

Link to the Hudson River Valley Chapter web page. Information on the Local items and events as well as good information. Try it, you'll like it!

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

Link to the Center for Disease Control. Great current information on health items to help protect us all through illness controlling and prevention. Lots of good items!

Article Hotlinks are in;
[Bold Underlined Red Font.](#)

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Schools Are Open - Drive Carefully.

As summer comes to a close, back-to-school season is in full effect. Remember to **safely share the roads** with school buses, pedestrians and bicyclists, and provide children with the knowledge to stay safe at school. Please use this as a Safety Break / Tool Box talk for your company drivers.

Drivers should be aware children are walking or biking to school and slow down, especially in residential areas and school zones. Motorists should know what the yellow and red bus signals mean;

Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is getting ready to stop and motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop.

Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign indicate the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off. Drivers in both directions must stop their vehicles and wait until the lights go off, the stop sign is back in place and the bus is moving before they can start driving again.

AAA offers six ways to keep kids safe this school year:

1. Slow down. Speed limits in school zones are reduced for a reason. A pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling at 25 mph is nearly two-thirds less likely to be killed compared to a pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling just 10 mph faster.
2. Eliminate distractions. Children often cross the road unexpectedly and may emerge suddenly between two parked cars. Research shows that taking your eyes off the road for just two seconds doubles your chances of crashing.
3. Reverse responsibly. Every vehicle has blind spots. Check for children on the sidewalk, driveway and around your vehicle before slowly backing up. Teach your children to **never** play in, under or around vehicles - even those that are parked.
4. Talk to your teen. Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States, and more than one in four fatal crashes involving teen drivers occur during the after-school hours of 3 to 7 p.m. Get evidence-based guidance and tips at **<https://teendriving.aaa.com/NY/>**
5. Come to a complete stop. Research shows that one third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods. Always come to a complete stop, checking carefully for children before proceeding.

Schools Are Open - Drive Carefully (Continued).

6. Watch for bicycles. Children on bikes are often inexperienced, unsteady and unpredictable. Slow down and allow at least three feet of passing distance between your vehicle and the bicycle. If your child rides a bicycle to school, require that they wear a properly-fitted bicycle helmet on every ride. Find videos, expert advice and general road safety tips at https://exchange.aaa.com/safety/#.W5bZ2_ZFxPY

Hudson River Valley Chapter Schedule of Meetings.

The schedule of monthly meeting dates for our Chapter is being published here for your convenience and reference. The Chapter's activity year is from September 2018 until July 2019. The month of August 2019 will be a month off to rest and enjoy vacation times with the family, before gearing up again for the next activity period. The meeting dates, as well as type and topic of the meetings will be published in this Newsletter the month before the next meeting or emailed to you, as well as listed on [our chapter web page](#). I know you are holding your breath for these! So without further delay, the meeting dates going forward are:

- September 6, 2018 – Executive Board Kick-Off & Planning Meeting.
- October 18, 2018 – Technical Meeting, Industrial Electrical Safety.
- October 26, 2018 - Attendance - Meeting of the Hudson Valley Federal Safety and Health Council.
- November 15, 2018 – Board Meeting.
- December 20, 2018 – Executive Board Meeting – Holiday Mixer.
- January 17, 2019 – Executive Board Meeting.
- February 21, 2019 – Technical Meeting.
- March 21, 2019 – Technical Meeting/with Tour.
- April 18, 2019 Board Meeting.
- April, 2019 - Attend Engineering Fair @ White Plains High School.
- May 23, 2019 – Chapter Wise Meeting.
- June 13, 2019 – Summer Outing.
- July 18, 2019 – Technical Meeting – Tour/Training session.
- August 15, 2019 – OFF/REST/VACATIONS.

Hudson River Valley Chapter's PDC Follow-Up.

I begin this article by paraphrasing the old cliché: “I have good news, and I have bad news”.

First the bad news, the Chapter's 2018 PDC planned for October 18 – 19, 2018, including the planned OSHA 10 Hour Construction Safety seminar is being postponed to October 24 – 25, 2019. There were a series of events that could not be overcome that lead to this decision. The main item was timing and negotiations with venues to secure a place that met our requirements to present the membership the PDC you deserve. To those of you who have paid in advance, I am told that refunds either have been sent out, or are being sent out to you. The chapter is working on fee refunds, and yours should be completed soon. Please contact us if you have any special conditions like an employer paid refund or reimbursement.

The “good news” is that we are forging ahead with plans for the PDC on October 24 – 25, 2019. We have a signed contract with a venue for those dates in October 2019. That venue is Vassar College, located in Poughkeepsie, NY. We are planning on offering an OSHA 10 hour Construction Safety Course along with our regular assortment of vendors, and other general interest safety courses are being planned as the offerings. More details will be presented to you as we make progress on the Hudson River Valley PDC in October 2019.

Can You Improve Turnaround Safety?*

From Oil refineries to manufacturing facilities the goals within any industrial, or production-style setting are pretty much the same: 1) – Keep workers safe; 2) – Maintain compliance; 3) – Achieve operational excellence. A thoughtful, thorough, and well-executed safety program can make a difference in helping realize those goals in normal operating mode.

But, what happens when it's turnaround time? How does the person or team responsible for overseeing the safety of the workers and completion of the turnaround minimize risks and maximize the safety and reliability of both plant and personnel? Simply put – Planning.

Because they occur once every two to five years, turnarounds and restarts are unusual which makes them potentially disruptive, complex, and more hazardous than everyday plant operations.

Here's a look at why;

Short Duration – Corresponding shutdowns may last anywhere from 1 – 4 weeks.

Unusual Workforce & Workplace Conditions – Turnarounds may involve large numbers of employees, contractors, and temporary workers. Contractors may be inherently disadvantaged because they may be unfamiliar with plant personnel, procedures, and operations.

Accelerated Timeline – Workers may be required to perform multiple, and often simultaneous inspection and maintenance tasks in order to lessen the time off line.

With turnarounds and restarts, the opportunity for potential incidents and accidents may amplify quickly, which is all the more reason to be at-the-ready with a comprehensive safety plan. Turnaround tasks vary by industry and by the facility. In general, a successful turnaround means that all tasks have been safely accomplished. To do that requires the energy and commitment of every worker and every safety team member at every phase, from planning, to scheduling, to completion.

To bring the plant back online swiftly, and to reduce the likelihood of incident, consider implementing the following safety related best practices within the turnaround and restart environment.

Communicate Early And Often – Continually provide definition and clarity. This means reiterating instructions, information, and guidelines. It also means not being afraid to communicate too much information. Touchpoints should include: Orientation, Plant Familiarization, Equipment training, Expectations and outcomes, and Safety training.

Involve All Personnel – Include relevant personnel from the start. This means inviting as many of the key stakeholders as possible to participate in information sharing sessions, daily downloads, and safety guidelines discussions. “Everyone” means pretty much anyone involved with the project, from employees to contract employees, to temporary workers, and safety experts.

Prepare & Train – Test, repair, and replace (if necessary) personal protective equipment (PPE), and train wearers on use and maintenance of the PPE. This means determining whether the plant has the appropriate types of portable gas detectors, respirators, and fall protection – and if it is available in sufficient quantity to support plant employees and contractors.

Smart and solid preparation and planning can help health and safety managers, site supervisors, process control operators, turnkey service providers, and turnaround personnel achieve a successful turnaround or plant restart.

**The above suggested guidelines are intended to be very general in nature. Please develop and follow site specific and task specific methods for your particular turnaround or plant restart written safety plan.*

Great News For Our Chapter - Platinum Level Achieved.

On September 4, 2018 The Hudson River Valley Chapter was officially notified that our chapter, Hudson River Valley Chapter, has been awarded the Platinum Level of Chapter recognition for the 2017 – 2018 chapter year! This award was made based on information the chapter submitted in the Chapter Operations Management Tool, (COMT), which was sent to the National Society on 6/30/2018. This report details chapter activity during our operational year.

The letter of recognition states this is a benefit to chapter members and the safety profession as a whole. Our chapter will be listed on the [Chapter Recognition Page](#) of the ASSP website and will include the chapter President for 2017-2018, Mrs. Crystal Turner-Moffatt. Only a few chapters achieve this level of distinction.

In addition to being listed on the ASSP website, the Platinum chapter winners will be recognized at the Chapter Recognition Luncheon taking place at Safety 2019 in New Orleans, LA.

Call for Topics and Participation.

Once again, if you have a topic you would like to see either in a Technical Meeting, or published in the Newsletter, please forward it to me. My contact email address is on the first page of this newsletter. You are welcomed to contact me using it. This is your chapter and you are free to participate if interested.

Safety Organization Meetings of Interest.

Other safety organizations are holding meetings that maybe of interest to our members, so I am listing them here for your reference. For some of these meetings, you were notified in a previous email sent to you.

Hudson Valley Federal Safety and Health Council – General Meeting on October 26, 2018, Montrose, NY. The agenda already sent to you. Contact Linda Di Gasper if attending this meeting.

Safety and Health Council of the Hudson Valley – A Day of Safety, on November 14, 2018, Kingston, NY. The agenda already sent to you. Contact Todd Martin if attending this meeting. Registration form emailed to you with agenda.

Fire Safety Director's Association of Greater New York – 31st Annual Symposium, on October 30, 2018, Brooklyn, NYC, NY. Non-Members pay \$150.00 fee to attend. The agenda topics, guest speakers, and registration information on the Web page: <http://fsdagreaterny.org/>. Then click on the Symposium topic in the upper left hand corner.

Next Chapter Meeting.

The next Hudson River Valley Chapter meeting is a Technical Meeting on October 18, 2018 with the topic of “Industrial Electrical Safety” presented by Mr. Bill Gerrlings. The agenda was emailed to you with Mr. Gerrlings credentials. This meeting will be held at **Ramada by Windham hotel, 542 Route 9, Fishkill, NY 12524**. The meeting will start at 5:30 PM, with a light dinner and refreshments served. Mr. Gerrlings will begin his presentation at 6:00 PM, with a completion time expected to be approximately 7:30 PM.