



Hudson River Valley Chapter Newsletter

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In This Issue

- OSHA Targeting Injury Illness Rates
- Installing Blue Roof Tarps
- 2018 OSHA Top Ten Violations
- OSHA Safety Stand-Down 2019
- Trenching Safety Tip Infographic
- OSHA Publications in eBook Format
- Final Rule Crane Operator Certifications
- Seven Cs for Safety Success
- Call for Suggested Topics.
- Next Monthly Chapter Meeting

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!

Hotlinks in articles are in **Bold Red font.**

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OSHA to Target High Injury and Illness Rates.

OSHA is initiating the **Site-Specific Targeting Program** to target workplaces with high injury rates for inspections. The agency will be using injury and illness information electronically submitted by employers for calendar year 2016 to inspect establishments that should have provided 300A data, but did not. This program helps OSHA ensure that employers provide safe and healthful workplaces by directing enforcement resources to those workplaces with the highest rates of injuries and illnesses. For details on the program, and recordkeeping and reporting requirements, read the **news release** following the link given.

Protecting Hurricane Recovery Workers Installing Blue Roof Tarps.

The official Atlantic Hurricane Season 2018 was from June 1, 2018 until November 30, 2018. It featured 15 named storms, 8 hurricanes and 2 major hurricanes with a total of \$33.3 billion in damages. Clean up, repairing and rebuilding operations can go on for months after the storms are over.

Reinforced plastic tarps, commonly called "Blue Roofs," provide temporary protection for the roofs of homes and other buildings damaged by hurricanes, tornadoes or other severe weather. When employees access roofs to install these tarps, they are at risk of falls, electrocutions and other hazards. OSHA has **recommendations to help keep workers safe**, such as to look for downed power lines, assess the roof condition, and never walk on the tarp (Could be hiding missing roof sections, holes or broken sky lights). To read or print-out the one and one half page OSHA Fact Sheet on Roof Tarping (Blue Roof) Safety, click on the link provided in the red bold underlined lettering given in this paragraph.

OSHA Top Ten Violations for 2018.

OSHA has announced the preliminary Top 10 most frequently cited workplace safety violations for fiscal year 2018. Mr. Patrick Kapust, deputy director of OSHA's Directorate of Enforcement Programs, presented the list during the 2018 National Safety Council (NSC) Congress & Expo held in Houston, TX. Year to year, the rankings rarely change, although this year's No. 10, "Eye and Face Protection" (1926.102) was not on the 2017 list. The red link next to the topic will take you to the OSHA Standard on the OSHA Website for your ease in referencing that standard. The numbers are the citations issued for that violation.

The Top 10 for fiscal year 2018 are (based on data as of October 1, 2018):

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements ([1926.501](#)): 7,270
2. Hazard Communication ([1910.1200](#)): 4,552
3. Scaffolding ([1926.451](#)): 3,336
4. Respiratory Protection ([1910.134](#)): 3,118
5. Lockout/Tagout ([1910.147](#)): 2,944
6. Ladders ([1926.1053](#)): 2,812
7. Powered Industrial Trucks ([1910.178](#)): 2,294
8. Fall Protection – Training Requirements ([1926.503](#)): 1,982
9. Machine Guarding ([1910.212](#)): 1,972
10. Eye and Face Protection ([1926.102](#)): 1,536

2019 National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls Announced.

OSHA has announced that the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls will take place on May 6 -10, 2019. Employers and workers are invited to participate in this the fourth annual [National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction](#). The weeklong outreach event encourages employers and workers to pause during the workday to discuss fall hazards and how to prevent them. Sadly falls are still the leading cause of death in the construction industry, accounting for 37 percent of fatalities industry-wide. Falls from elevation accounted for 370 of the 991 fatalities in construction recorded in 2016 (last full year of data from BLS). Those deaths were preventable. This National Stand-Down raises fall hazard awareness across the country in an effort to stop fall fatalities and injuries. Participants can include commercial construction companies, general industry employers, unions, trade associations, employee interest organizations, and safety equipment manufacturers, even the U.S. Military. Companies can participate by taking breaks to conduct a toolbox talk, or conduct inspections of the safety equipment, developing rescue plans, or addressing job specific safety hazards. For more resources on fall prevention visit OSHA's webpage on this annual Stand-Down, at the link given previously in this article, and click on the word "Resources".

Trench Safety Tips New Infographic.

Through an alliance with OSHA, and CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training - developed an Infographic focusing on trench safety, including best practices to protect workers in trenches. This infographic is available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Did You Know - OSHA Publications Now In eBook Format.

Select OSHA publications are now available in eBook format. [OSHA eBooks](#) are designed to increase readability on smartphones, tablets, and other mobile devices. Use the link to check them out.

OSHA Issues Final Rule on Crane Operator Certification requirements.

OSHA has published a final rule that clarifies certification requirements for crane operators, and maintains the employer's duty to ensure that crane operators can safely operate the equipment. Under the final rule, employers must train operators as needed to perform assigned crane activities, evaluate them and document successful completion of the evaluations. Employers who have evaluated operators prior to December 9, 2018, will not have to conduct those evaluations again, but will be required only to document when those evaluations were completed.

Under the rule, crane operators must be certified or licensed, and must receive ongoing training as necessary to operate new equipment. Operators can be certified based on the crane's type and capacity, or type only, which ensures that more accredited testing organizations are eligible to meet the agency's certification program requirements. The final rule revises a 2010 requirement that crane operator certification must specify the rated lifting capacity of cranes for which the operator is certified. Compliant certifications that were issued by type and capacity are still acceptable under this final rule.

This final rule became effective on December 9, 2018; the evaluation and documentation provisions become effective on February 7, 2019. Click here to read/view all 196 pages of the [Final Rule](#).

See related topic links on this [here](#).

Seven C's for Safety Success.

Do you know what the seven C's are for safety success? These basic steps can make your in-house safety program more effective and successful. These seven C's are:

1 – **Communication**: solving a problem, whether in OSH or any other profession requires effective communication. Communication helps develop relationships, learn what employees hope to achieve, recognize opportunities for improvement or identify the actions needed to accomplish organizational goals.

2 – **Courage**: seeing a problem takes mere observation. Doing something about it requires courage. It is the responsibility of workers and safety professionals alike that to act on behalf of protecting worker safety when they see something that could cause harm to another person.

3 – **Commitment**: Commitment to one's organization reflects a worker's motivation to perform and an understanding of the consequences of their behavior. When a worker takes a pledge or signs a petition, they are in essence making a promise to their employer that they will act in the manner consistent with organizational expectations. To stay true to that commitment, workers will then behave in that way.

4 – **Choice**: As noted, personal choice is a key component in facilitating a culture where employees look out for each other and act in the best interest of safety. Employers should do everything they can to facilitate self-accountability and self-motivation.

5 – **Competence**: everyone wants to feel competent in the work they do. When workers perceive that they can perform their tasks and fulfill their responsibilities, they are more motivated to do the right thing in terms of safety, even when no one is watching.

6 – **Community**: Along with the steps outlined, creating a sense of community among the workforce is crucial to developing a culture where workers are concerned for each other's safety and will take steps to ensure that incidents don't occur. When workers feel connected to their colleagues and that they are a part of something greater than themselves, it can help break down barriers.

7 – **Compassion**: Being compassionate to the well-being of your coworkers requires you to see things from their point of view. When we see things from someone else's perspective, we understand where they are coming from and can collaborate toward a positive solution.

Call For Topics You Want To See Here.

In previous newsletters I asked if you the readers had a topic they felt would be useful and interesting to the general membership, to be summarized in a Newsletter item, or to be presented at one of our chapter meetings. If you do have a topic, please send it to me, Charles Von Dietsch, my email address is on the front page of this newsletter. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns about the Chapter or with Technical or General Meeting topics you would like to see presented. I will bring them to the rest of the Chapter Executive Committee to discuss the possible use of your idea as a meeting topic presentation. I will also provide you with feedback concerning the decision to use your suggested topic or not. Just about any safety related item is welcomed, either an on-the-job topic, or one for family safety at home or on vacation, a near miss incident, local regulation, or federal regulation update will be welcome. There are a few guidelines that we follow which were outlined way back in June of 2016 when we published the first new chapter membership newsletter. Nothing political, inflammatory, or insulting to any other person – member of this chapter, or the Society – or non-member will be put in this newsletter. Items that describe a serious violation of safety standards are encouraged and will be allowed in the newsletter, or as a live topic. Specifics that might be identifiable to a person will be removed unless the suggested item is supplied to us with the required written permissions to use some personalized details for accuracy of the incident or experience. This is an easy way for you to become more involved in the chapter, so give it a try. Remember, this is YOUR Chapter and we need and look forward to your support, assistance, and participation.

Our Scheduled Next Chapter Meeting.

The Executive Board of the Hudson River Valley Chapter decided at our November Meeting that there would be no meeting planned to take place in December 2018.

The next Scheduled Chapter meeting is planned for January 17, 2019, and will be a Chapter Board meeting to begin the task of planning and presenting the 2019 PDC – YES THE 2019 PDC - and to go over some other chapter business. This meeting is currently scheduled to be held at the offices of QuEST Environmental located at 1376 Route 9, Wappingers Falls, NY.

Come to a chapter meeting, we would like to see you! The meetings are always open to ASSP members and they are always included in this newsletter, and they are posted on our [web page](#) in advance so you know where they are going to be held. Try to attend a meeting, yes it may take some of your time, but it may be well worth it. The business sections of the meetings generally start at 6:00 P.M., and they end at approximately 7:30 P.M., depending on the amount of discussion and items on the agenda. Networking with a light meal and refreshments are usually served at 5:30 PM. Since this is your Chapter, please feel free to drop by and participate in the functions of the Chapter. Who knows, you might just like it and decide to become involved in setting the direction and operation of the Hudson River Valley Chapter. We would really love to see you at a Chapter Meeting.

We will also begin a survey campaign to hear from you the members on why you do not attend the meetings, or participate and lend a hand with arrangements or suggesting things to cover.

This may include and mail out type survey if you have a correct address on file with the National Society, as we get our member contact information from them.