



# The Safety Connection

## San Diego

### *The President's Message — May, 2020*

This past month has been historical. We have all been informed of these historical events every day, so I won't bore you with a recap.

The hardest thing for people to do seems to be follow the stay home order. This goes against our nature. The Executive Committee has accomplished this by conducting its meetings via conference calls.

On April 2nd, from 9 am to 4 pm ASSP Region 1 conducted a Regional Operating

Committee (ROC) meeting using video and conference call technology. Forty people representing chapters in Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, and California participated. ASSP President Diana Stegal and ASSP CEO Jennifer McNelly made presentations and remained on the call for the entire meeting. ASSP executives have recommended chapters cancel or postpone meetings or other events through May 15th. Each chapter discussed exploring online options in lieu of face to face meetings.

In April we were fortunate to have Steve Thompson, ARM, COSS, Principal and Senior Safety & Risk Management Consultant with Aspen Risk Management Group present a webinar on Common Sense Ergonomics While Temporarily Working from Home.

Our May meeting & election of

(see **President's Message**, Page 2)



Steve Workman

### Inside this issue:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1 - 2
LIST OF OFFICERS	2
EXCOM MTG MINUTES	2 - 3
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	3 - 8
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR	8
NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS	9
JOB LINE	9
ASP/CSP STUDY GROUP	9
ASSP CAREER CENTER	10
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	10
OSHA NEWS RELEASE	11 - 14
NIOSH NEWS	15
CDC GUIDELINES	16-17
HEALTH & SAFETY NEWS	18
PRODUCT RECALLS	19
HELPFUL LINKS	20
COVID CORNER	20

**CLICK ON THE TOPIC  
TO JUMP TO THAT PAGE!**



*How far is six feet away, anyway?*

**Thank you to all the sponsors of our 2020 Professional Development Conference!**



CHUBB



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS



**"Providing Leadership & Direction to  
the Safety Professional since 1911"**

## 2019 - 2020 Officers

### **PRESIDENT & DELEGATE:**

Steve Workman  
president@sandiego.assp.org

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT:**

Scott Simerson  
president-elect@sandiego.assp.org

### **SECRETARY:**

Wesley Williams  
secretary@sandiego.assp.org

### **TREASURER:**

Chris Malicki  
treasurer@sandiego.assp.org

### **PAST-PRESIDENT:**

Enrique Medina, MS, CIH, CSP  
past-president@sandiego.assp.org

### **MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:**

Jo Curcio  
membership@sandiego.assp.org

### **JOB LINE CHAIR:**

David Ferguson, CSP, CEA, REPA  
jobline@sandiego.assp.org

### **PROGRAMS CHAIR:**

Fernand Kuhr  
programs@sandiego.assp.org

### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHAIR:**

Isaac Szmuiłowicz, CSP, COSS  
public@sandiego.assp.org

### **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CHAIR:**

Scott Simerson  
government@sandiego.assp.org

### **SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR**

David Hiipakka  
communications@sandiego.assp.org

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

Lee Donahue, CHST, OHST  
newsletter@sandiego.assp.org

### **PDC COMMITTEE CHAIR:**

Scott Simerson  
president-elect@sandiego.assp.org

### **HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEMBER:**

Teresa Bonilla  
delegate@sandiego.assp.org

### **SUCCESSION PLANNING CHAIR**

Cait Casey  
planning@sandiego.assp.org

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS CHAIR:**

Brooks Carder, PhD  
specialprojects@sandiego.assp.org

## *(President's Message, from Page 1)*

officers will be done online (details to follow). We will plan for in person monthly meetings as soon as government guidance allows. Until then: if you leave your place, cover your face and wash your hands.

Next year the ASSP will celebrate 110

years and the San Diego Chapter will celebrate 57 years. I encourage each of you to contribute and participate in some way. To all the past and present contributors, I want to sincerely say Thank-you.

Steve Workman, CEAS  
President  
San Diego ASSP Chapter

## SAN DIEGO ASSP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Executive Committee met over the phone on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Teresa Bonilla, Cait Casey, Jo Curcio, Lee Donahue, David Ferguson, David Hiipakka, Chris Malicki, Enrique Medina, Isaac Szmuiłowicz, Scott Simerson, Steve Workman, and Wesley Williams were present.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **1. Review Minutes from March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020:**

Steve Workman entertained the motion, Teresa Bonilla moved, and Lee Donahue seconded the motion to approve the minutes from March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Unanimous approval with no discussion, no abstentions.

#### **2. Treasurer's Report:**

- Members may view a copy of the Treasurer's Report upon request to the Chapter President.
- Chris spent the last few days working on the monthly as well as the annual report. Annual report is due to file shortly.
- Account looks good:
  - Catering costs at PDC were a little higher than anticipated
  - Photobooth was a return expense, considered a successful one
  - Whova was a new expense,

could make better use of it next year

- Due to Chapter's success the past two years, Society cannot file the tax return on Chapter's behalf
- Need to compare actual expenses against planned budget
  - Need to better track certain items
  - Overall everything is fairly close to expectations

#### **3. Steve & Scott attended ROC Meeting April 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

- Remote conference, all day, from 9-4
- Joined on meeting by President Diana Stegall and CEO Jennifer McNally; both remained in meeting for the full day
- Steve reported on the success of the challenge coin; other chapters are interested in creating their own
- Next ROC is set for September 24-25
  - Format is unknown at this time
  - If in person, intended to be held in the Lower Columbia Basin

*(see ExCom Meeting Minutes, page 3)*



*(ExCom Meeting Minutes, continued from Page 2)*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Office Slate for elections for next term.**

- a. Enrique is rounding out the group of three for the nomination committee.
  - i. Need to have slate ready in time for voting
  - ii. Typically voting takes place at May meeting; will be online this time
- b. Expected slate:
  - i. President—Scott Simerson (follows from president-elect position)
  - ii. President-elect—Wesley Williams
  - iii. Treasurer—Chris Malicki
  - iv. Secretary—Open
  - v. Delegates—Steve Workman (past-president) and Scott Simerson (president)
- c. Designating president and past-president as delegates ensures continuity
- d. Non-elected positions are expected to remain filled with the same personnel
- e. Steve reiterated the team environment of officers supporting each other and mentioned it as an enticement to prospective ExCom members

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Government Affairs — No update.
2. Delegate — No update.
3. Job Line — There are 10 current positions listed in the job line.
4. Membership — No update.
5. Newsletter — New name implemented along with new graphics, a few design changes, and some new content.
6. Programs — Steve Thompson proposed to hold a virtual meeting. Lee may be able to host up to 150 participants – need to check time slot against license

7. Public Affairs — Next Sound the Alarm event postponed.
8. Social Media — Ready to distribute info for potential monthly meeting as details get resolved.
9. Succession Planning — Cait discussed with various people at the PDC to line up more interview articles for newsletter. Will continue pursuing and reminding. Forwarded recommendations for ExCom to Scott. Most committee positions remain filled by current personnel. .
10. Special Projects — No update.
11. PDC — 2020 PDC Planning –
  - a. Face-to-face discussions indicate vendors were pleased
  - b. Vendor and sponsor information is update on the chapter website
  - c. Lots of chatter in the vendor area during speaker presentations – need to manage chatter better
    - i. Ask to network in the foyer, provide tables and chairs for that?
    - ii. Ensure remote speakers are functioning
  - d. Build manual for PDC to provide guidance, built off of lessons learned
  - e. WHOVA is asking to make a commitment by April 10th for next year
  - f. ExCom agrees it's too premature to make a decision at this time
  - g. Coins do not need to be part of PDC expenses, could just be a chapter thing, about 50 coins left on hand

**Next EC Meeting:** May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Conference call.

**Next Monthly Meeting:** Tentative for May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Details to follow; may be an online platform.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

### **Government Affairs Committee:**

*by Scott Simerson*

#### **H.R. 6139: COVID-19 Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2020**

March 9, 2020

COVID-19 Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2020: This bill requires the Department of Labor to promulgate both an emergency temporary occupational safety or

health standard and a permanent standard to protect certain employees from occupational exposure to SARS-CoV-2 (known as coronavirus or COVID-19). These standards apply to health care sector employees and other employees identified as having an elevated risk for exposure.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/116/hr6139/summary>

*(see Government Affairs, page 4)*





*(Government Affairs, continued from Page 3)*

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF UP TO \$100 MILLION IN NATIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY DISLOCATED WORKER GRANTS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 OUTBREAK

March 18, 2020

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor today announced the availability of up to \$100 million for Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) to help address the workforce-related impacts of the public health emergency related to COVID-19, also known as novel coronavirus.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a nationwide public health emergency as a result of confirmed cases of the coronavirus. This federal declaration enables the Secretary of Labor to award Disaster Recovery DWGs to help address the workforce-related impacts of this public health emergency (WIOA Act Section 170(a)(1)(B)).

“As Americans make sacrifices to combat the spread of coronavirus, President Trump’s priority is to protect and sustain America’s workers and their families,” U.S. Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia said. “The availability of Dislocated Worker Grants will help states and communities strengthen their economies as we fight to slow the spread of the virus and regain our economic momentum.”

Entities eligible to apply for Disaster Recovery DWGs are states, outlying areas and Indian Tribal Governments as defined in the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(6)). Disaster Recovery DWGs will provide eligible participants with both disaster-relief employment and employment and training activities. These participants can include dislocated workers, workers who were laid-off as a result of the disaster, self-employed individuals who are unemployed or underemployed as a result of the disaster, and long-term unemployed individuals.

Eligible entities can also apply for Employment Recovery DWGs in response to layoffs caused by cancellations or shutdowns caused by coronavirus. Employment Recovery DWGs will provide employment and training services to reintegrate eligible individuals back into the workforce. States can apply for Employment Recovery DWGs if 50 or more individuals are laid off by one employer or if there are significant layoffs that significantly increase unemployment in a given community, even if the total layoffs are fewer than 50 individuals.

Supported by the [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity](#)

Act of 2014, Dislocated Worker Grants temporarily expand the service capacity of dislocated worker programs at the state and local levels by providing funding assistance in response to large, unexpected economic events that cause significant job losses.

For further information about COVID-19, please visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

The Employment and Training Administration administers federal government job training and dislocated worker programs, federal grants to states for public employment service programs and unemployment insurance benefits.

These services are primarily provided through state and local workforce development systems.

The mission of the U.S. Department of Labor is to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

## Magnet Injury Prevention Act would ban small high-powered magnets, banned under Obama but re-allowed by a court

March 31, 2020

The legislation would overturn an anti-regulatory 2016 decision joined by the future Supreme Court justice.

Context: In a trend in America starting around 2009, colorful spherical neodymium magnets — which are about **30 times stronger than normal refrigerator magnets** — became popular. That property allowed customers to do cool things, such as create sculptures which would be impossible with refrigerator magnets.

These new cool things came with a potentially fatal downside. If young children or infants swallowed more than one of the neodymium magnets, their super-attraction meant the magnets would often find each other within the body — sometimes destroying tissues in between.

There were hundreds of such injury cases per year, including cases with as many as 16 magnets ingested, resulting in **at least one death**. And the odds of such multi-magnet incidents were raised because these weren’t sold individually, but rather **in sets of 72, 216, and 1,728**.

In 2012, the Obama administration’s Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) **voted 3–1 to ban the sale of**

*(see **Government Affairs**, page 5)*



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

*(Government Affairs, continued from Page 4)*

these magnets. But that decision was reversed a few years later by a 2016 Court of Appeals decision which [struck down the CSPC’s ban by 2–1](#), finding that the Commission’s factual findings as required under the law were “incomplete and inadequately explained.” Future Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch was in the majority.

What the legislation does: The Magnet Injury Prevention Act would once again ban these tiny high-powered magnets, as they were for several years during the Obama era.

The Senate version was introduced on December 19 as bill number [S. 3143](#), by [Sen. Richard Blumenthal \(D-CT\)](#). The House version was introduced two and a half months later on March 5 as bill number [H.R. 6105](#), by [Rep. Tony Cardenas \(D-CA29\)](#).

What supporters say: Supporters argue the legislation is a necessary health and safety measure, especially after documented cases of injuries and death.

“One fatality is one too many. There is no reason that these dangerous small, high-powered magnets should be on the market or sold in toys,” Rep. Cardenas [said in a press release](#). “As a grandfather, this is personal for me. We have an obligation to do all that we can to prevent life-threatening toys from reaching the hands of children in America.”

“Small, powerful magnets pose a real threat to young children,” Sen. Blumenthal said in the same press release. “Children swallowing them can suffer lasting damage to their stomach or intestine because the magnets adhere and bunch which creates obstruction or perforation, internal bleeding, and even possibly death. They are a real danger.”

What opponents say: Opponents counter that the original Obama-era magnet ban was initiated with insufficient evidence.

“A court may not uphold a safety standard unless the Commission’s statutorily required findings and conclusions are supported by substantial evidence on the record taken as a whole,” the Court of Appeals (including Neil Gorsuch) [wrote when striking down the original ban](#). “In this instance, the Commission’s rulemaking analysis fails at the first step of the... two-step process: the initial cost and benefit findings.”

“Specifically, the Commission’s analysis neglected to address critical ambiguities and complexities in the data underpinning the Commission’s findings as to (1) the degree of the risk of injury caused by magnet sets, and (2) the public’s need for the sets and the rule’s effect on their utility and availability.”

Odds of passage: The House version has attracted [one Democratic cosponsor](#): Rep. Kim Schrier (D-WA8). It awaits a potential vote in the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

The Senate version has [not yet attracted any cosponsors](#). It awaits a potential vote in the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. Odds of passage are low in the Republican-controlled chamber.

*This article was written by GovTrack Insider staff writer Jesse Rifkin.*

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ISSUES GUIDANCE FOR RESPIRATORY PROTECTION DURING N95 SHORTAGE DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

April 3, 2020

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued [interim enforcement guidance](#) to help combat supply shortages of disposable N95 filtering face piece respirators (N95 FFRs). The action marks the department’s latest step to ensure the availability of respirators and follows President Donald J. Trump’s Memorandum on Making General Use Respirators Available.

Due to the impact on workplace conditions caused by limited supplies of N95 FFRs, employers should reassess their engineering controls, work practices and administrative controls to identify any changes they can make to decrease the need for N95 respirators.

If respiratory protection must be used, employers may consider use of alternative classes of respirators that provide equal or greater protection compared to an N95 FFR, such as National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)-approved, non-disposable, elastomeric respirators or powered, air-purifying respirators.

When these alternatives are not available, or where their use creates additional safety or health hazards, employers

*(see Government Affairs, page 6)*



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

*(Government Affairs, continued from Page 5)*

may consider the extended use or reuse of N95 FFRs, or use of N95 FFRs that were approved but have since passed the manufacturer’s recommended shelf life, under specified conditions.

This interim guidance will take effect immediately and remain in effect until further notice. This guidance is intended to be time-limited to the current public health crisis.

### Cal/OSHA Notice: Guidance Posted on COVID-19 Infection Prevention for Agricultural Employers & Employees

April 7, 2020

Cal/OSHA is forwarding this message to provide workers, employers and other safety and health professionals in California guidance on COVID-19 infection prevention in the agriculture industry.

Please note: This guidance does not introduce any new legal obligations, but because COVID-19 is widespread in the community, employers operating agricultural worksites in California must consider the disease a workplace hazard and employers must take steps to update their safety procedures to include preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Cal/OSHA recommends employers review this guidance along with their existing procedures to ensure that their plans are effectively protecting workers.

Our goal at Cal/OSHA and the Department of Industrial Relations is to ensure that you have the information you need to protect your workers at this time.

Employers with questions can call (800) 963-9424 for assistance from Cal/OSHA Consultation Services. Employees with work-related questions or complaints may contact DIR’s Call Center in English or Spanish at 844-LABOR-DIR (844-522-6734).

Thank you.

Resources: Guidance for Agriculture in English:

[www.dir.ca.gov/COVID19AG](http://www.dir.ca.gov/COVID19AG)

Guidance for Agriculture in Spanish: [www.dir.ca.gov/COVID19AGESP](http://www.dir.ca.gov/COVID19AGESP)

Cal/OSHA homepage for Coronavirus-related information:

<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html>

### U.S. Department of Labor Reminds Employers That They Cannot Retaliate Against Workers Reporting Unsafe Conditions During Coronavirus Pandemic

April 8, 2020

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is reminding employers that it is illegal to retaliate against workers because they report unsafe and unhealthful working conditions during the coronavirus pandemic. Acts of retaliation can include terminations, demotions, denials of overtime or promotion, or reductions in pay or hours.

“Employees have the right to safe and healthy workplaces,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Loren Sweatt. “Any worker who believes that their employer is retaliating against them for reporting unsafe working conditions should contact OSHA immediately.”

Workers have the right to file a [whistleblower complaint](#) online with OSHA (or 1-800-321-OSHA) if they believe their employer has retaliated against them for exercising their rights under the whistleblower protection laws enforced by the agency.

OSHA’s [Whistleblower Protection Program](#) webpage provides valuable resources on worker rights, including [fact sheets on whistleblower protections](#) for employees in various industries and [frequently asked questions](#).

OSHA enforces the whistleblower provisions of [more than 20 whistleblower statutes](#) protecting employees from retaliation for reporting violations of various workplace safety and health, airline, commercial motor carrier, consumer product, environmental, financial reform, food safety, motor vehicle safety, healthcare reform, nuclear, pipeline, public transportation agency, railroad, maritime, securities and tax laws. For more information on whistleblower protections, visit OSHA’s [Whistleblower Protection Programs webpage](#).

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

*(see Government Affairs, page 7)*



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

*(Government Affairs, continued from Page 6)*

women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

The mission of the Department of Labor is to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

Visit OSHA’s [Coronavirus webpage](#) regularly for updates.

### U.S. Department of Labor Issues Enforcement Guidance For Recording Cases of COVID-19

April 10, 2020

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued [interim guidance](#) for enforcing OSHA’s recordkeeping requirements (29 CFR Part 1904) as it relates to recording cases of COVID-19.

Under OSHA’s recordkeeping requirements, COVID-19 is a recordable illness, and employers are responsible for recording cases of COVID-19, if the case:

Is confirmed as a COVID-19 illness;

Is [work-related](#) as defined by 29 CFR 1904.5; and

Involves one or more of the [general recording criteria](#) in 29 CFR 1904.7, such as medical treatment beyond first aid or days away from work.

In areas where there is ongoing community transmission, employers other than those in the healthcare industry, emergency response organizations (e.g., emergency medical, firefighting and law enforcement services), and correctional institutions may have difficulty making determinations about whether workers who contracted COVID-19 did so due to exposures at work. Accordingly, until further notice, OSHA will not enforce its recordkeeping requirements to require these employers to make work-relatedness determinations for COVID-19 cases, except where: (1) There is objective evidence that a COVID-19 case may be work-related; and (2) The evidence was reasonably available to the employer. Employers of workers in the healthcare industry, emergency response organizations and correctional institutions must continue to make

work-relatedness determinations pursuant to 29 CFR Part 1904.

OSHA’s enforcement policy will provide certainty to the regulated community and help employers focus their response efforts on implementing good hygiene practices in their workplaces and otherwise mitigating COVID-19’s effects.

For further information and resources about the coronavirus disease, please visit OSHA’s [COVID-19 webpage](#).

### U.S. Department of Labor Announces OSHA Interim Enforcement Response Plan to Protect Workers during the Coronavirus Pandemic

April 13, 2020

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) today announced an [interim enforcement response plan](#) for the coronavirus pandemic. The response plan provides instructions and guidance to OSHA Area Offices and compliance safety and health officers (CSHOs) for handling coronavirus-related complaints, referrals, and severe illness reports.

During the coronavirus outbreak, OSHA Area Offices will utilize their inspection resources to fulfill mission essential functions and protect workers exposed to the disease. The response plan contains interim procedures that allow flexibility and discretion for field offices to maximize OSHA’s impact in securing safe workplaces in this evolving environment.

“OSHA is committed to protecting the health and safety of America’s workers during this challenging time in our nation’s history,” Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Loren Sweatt said. “Today’s guidance outlines commonsense procedures for investigating complaints related to the coronavirus, while also ensuring the safety of workers, employers, and inspectors.”

The response plan outlines procedures for addressing reports of workplace hazards related to the coronavirus. Fatalities and imminent danger exposures related to the coronavirus will be prioritized for on-site inspections. The response plan contains procedures and sample documentation for CSHOs to use during coronavirus-related inspections. Workers requesting inspections, complaining of

*(see Government Affairs, page 8)*





## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

*(Government Affairs, continued from Page 7)*

coronavirus exposure, or reporting illnesses may be protected under one or more whistleblower statutes and will be informed of their protections from retaliation. This memorandum will take effect immediately and remain in effect until further notice. It is intended to be time-limited to the current public health crisis. Check OSHA's webpage at [www.osha.gov/coronavirus](http://www.osha.gov/coronavirus) frequently for updates.

### U.S. Department of Labor to Hold Meeting to Solicit Public Input on OSHA Whistleblower Program

April 21, 2020

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will hold a teleconference meeting May 12, 2020, in Washington, D.C., to solicit public comments and suggestions on key issues facing OSHA's whistleblower protection program.

This is the fifth in a series of meetings on how the agency can improve the whistleblower program.

Open to the public, the [meeting](#) will be held from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EDT via telephone. Those interested in joining or participating in the meeting must [register by May 5, 2020](#). Call-in information will be provided to all registrants. There is no fee to register.

The agency is seeking comments on:

- How can OSHA better deliver its whistleblower services?
- What kind of assistance can OSHA provide to help explain the agency's whistleblower laws to employees and employers?
- Where should OSHA target whistleblower outreach efforts?

Materials may be submitted electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal, or by mail. Written or electronic comments must

be submitted by May 5, 2020. See the [Federal Register notice](#) for submission details. Comments must be identified with Docket No. OSHA-2018-0005.

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](http://www.osha.gov).

The mission of the Department of Labor is to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.



by Lee Donahue

The last few months have truly tested our ability to effectively collaborate without the face-to-face contact we all know can be essen-

tial. Lacking our normal in-person meetings, hallway conversations, and spontaneous interactions, we have had to rely on more and less traditional means of communication. Print media, mailings, and newsletters like this one have taken on new significance while internet reporting, webcam conferencing, and distance learning are redefining their methods as user reliance on them is suddenly surging.

In an attempt to support your efforts to stay on top of things, we've introduced a (hopefully!) temporary section on the last page—the [COVID Corner](#), with relevant links to keep up to date. New to that section: AIHA has published free guidelines for multiple industries returning to operation, which you can access at [www.backtoworksafely.org](http://www.backtoworksafely.org).

Good luck to everyone as we get [Back to Work Safely](#)™!



**Editor's Note:** Do you have an item of interest, safety-related event, sister-organization meeting, special accomplishment, or other newsworthy article that you would like shared with your fellow San Diego ASSP members? Submit it for consideration via e-mail no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month! Please e-mail all submissions along with your contact information, including name, e-mail address, and phone number, to [Newsletter@sandiego.assp.org](mailto:Newsletter@sandiego.assp.org).







## ASSP Career Center

The ASSP Career Center is a free comprehensive resource available to all ASSP Chapter members who are looking for a job or those who are employed and want to advance their safety careers. The Career Center's Job Seeker Resource Center offers resume writing tips, tools to build your resume online, and a Resume Bank where you can post your resume anonymously for employers to view, except for your name and contact information. But that's not all! You also get interview preparation and follow-up strategies, such as how to bring up and negotiate a salary.

The Job Board lets you to search for job postings throughout the US and internationally by applying filters that fit your criteria, and save them by keyword, location, industry, or job function. The Job Alert automated search sends new postings that meet your criteria right to you, instead of having to log in to search for new jobs. You also get help with career advancement to move your career forward or change industry sectors, including using social media for networking, how to work effectively with recruiters, how to give notice, and negotiating salary and benefits. And you have access to expert coaching!

Employers can post and manage job openings, search and manage job candidates, create a company profile, upload position templates, consult a Resume Bank, and much more. This is a great free resource designed with you in mind—visit the ASSP Career Center and Job Board at [jobs.assp.org/](https://jobs.assp.org/).

## Calendar of Special Events May 2020

*Click on an event to learn more!*

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>
1-31	Motorcycle Safety Month
1-31	National Bike Month
1-31	Electrical Safety Month
1-31	Trauma Awareness Month
1-31	Building Safety Month
1-31	Wildfire Awareness Month
1-31	American Stroke Month
1-31	Mental Health Month
2	Wildfire Community Preparedness Day
	<i>Things to do to protect your home!</i>
3-9	North American Safety and Health Week
4-8	National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Workplace Falls— <i>POSTPONED</i>
25	Memorial Day
31	World No-Tobacco Day

May 2020 						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Always find the latest  
San Diego ASSP events at  
[sandiego.assp.org/event!](https://sandiego.assp.org/event/)



## OSHA Trade News Release

U.S. Department of Labor  
OSHA, Office of Communications



### U.S. Department of Labor Appoints Amanda Edens OSHA Deputy Assistant Secretary

April 1, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The U.S. Department of Labor has selected Amanda Edens as its new deputy assistant secretary for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Edens formerly served as the director of OSHA’s Directorate of Technical Support & Emergency Management (DTSEM) since 2012.

Edens joined OSHA in 1985 as an industrial hygienist. In 2002, she served as the director for the Office of Chemical Hazards-Metals in OSHA’s Directorate of Standards and Guidance, and

in 2007 became deputy director of the Directorate of Standards and Guidance. Edens has also served on details as acting director for the agency’s Directorate of Evaluation and Analysis and Directorate of Enforcement Programs.

Edens holds a Master of Science in Public Health and Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has contributed to the development of significant health standards, including asbestos, bloodborne pathogens and hexavalent chromium; led emergency management efforts for protecting the safety and health of response and clean-up workers following Super-

storm Sandy and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria; and led emergency technical support efforts during the Ebola events and Zika epidemic.

“Amanda Edens is a dedicated public servant focused on the agency’s mission of improving the safety and health of workers,” said Loren Sweatt, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health. “I am confident that in her new role she will continue the mission of assuring safe and healthful workplaces for America’s workers.” ■

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](http://www.osha.gov).

[gest](#) lists frequently used standards in construction and explains what employers should do to comply.

OSHA issued citations to [Heaslip Engineering LLC](#), [Citadel Builders LLC](#), [Suncoast Projects LLC](#), [HUTCO Inc](#), [King Company LLC](#), [Regional Mechanical Services LLC](#), [Rush Masonry Inc](#), [REYCO Inc](#), [SS Construction and Consulting LLC](#), [Southern Services and Equipment Inc](#), and [F Mata Masonry LLC](#).

The companies have 15 business days from receipt of the citation and penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA’s area director, or contest the findings before the independent [Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission](#). ■

### U.S. Department of Labor Cites Engineering Firm, General Contractor, Steel Erector, Other Subcontractors After New Orleans Construction Collapse

April 3, 2020

**NEW ORLEANS, LA** – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited Heaslip Engineering LLC, Citadel Builders LLC, Suncoast Projects LLC – doing business as Hub Steel – and eight subcontractors for safety and health violations at the construction site of a planned Hard Rock hotel in downtown New Orleans. Three workers suffered fatal injuries and 18 other workers suffered serious injuries in a partial building collapse.

OSHA’s investigation determined that Heaslip Engineering LLC failed to adequately design, review or approve steel bolt connections affecting the structural integrity of the building, and

issued one willful violation for the failure. OSHA cited Citadel Builders LLC, the site’s general contractor, for three serious violations related to inadequate egress from the structure. OSHA cited steel erector contractor Suncoast Projects LLC, for failing to maintain structural stability of building and cited other subcontractors onsite for serious violations related to emergency egress training, inadequate egress, fall hazard training and safety hazards. Collectively, the companies face \$315,536 in penalties.

“Employers must adhere to safety and health requirements to protect all workers on the jobsite,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Loren Sweatt. “Failing to recognize hazards and implement necessary safety measures resulted in a preventable tragedy.”

OSHA’s [Construction Industry Di-](#)





## U.S. DOL Issues Guidance for Respirators Certified under Other Countries' Standards During COVID-19 Pandemic

April 3, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC** – In the latest effort to implement President Donald J. Trump's Memorandum on Making General Use Respirators Available, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued [interim enforcement guidance](#) regarding disposable N95 filtering facepiece respirators (N95 FFRs) that are either certified under certain standards of other countries or jurisdictions or certified under other countries' or jurisdictions' standards but are expired.

During periods of shortages of N95 FFRs, the federal government advises that employers may consider using respirators and filters certified under the following standards of other coun-

tries or jurisdictions:

- Australia: AS/NZS 1716:2012
- Brazil: ABNT/NBR 13694:1996; ABNT/NBR 13697:1996; and ABNT/NBR 13698:2011
- People's Republic of China: GB 2626-2006; and GB 2626-2019
- European Union: EN 140-1999; EN 143-2000; and EN 149-2001
- Japan: JMHLW-2000
- Republic of Korea: KMOEL-2014-46; and KMOEL-2017-64
- Mexico: NOM-116-2009

Due to the impact on workplace conditions caused by increased demand for N95 FFRs, all employers should reassess their engineering controls, work practices, and administrative controls to identify any changes they can make to decrease the need for N95 respirators.

If respiratory protection must be used, and either acceptable National Institute for Occupational Safety and

Health (NIOSH)-certified alternatives or alternatives that were NIOSH-certified except for having exceeded their manufacturer's shelf life are not available for use in accordance with OSHA's April 3, 2020 memorandum, employers may consider using respirators and filters certified under standards of other countries or jurisdictions, as specified in the enforcement guidance.

This interim guidance marks the latest effort by OSHA to make respirators more accessible for America's workers. OSHA previously issued interim enforcement guidance aimed at combating supply shortages of disposable N95 filtering facepiece respirators (N95 FFRs) and protecting America's healthcare workers.

This new interim guidance will take effect immediately and remain in effect until further notice. This guidance is intended to be time-limited to the current public health crisis. ■

## U.S. DOL Expands Temporary Guidance for Respirator Fit-Testing to All Industries during COVID-19 Pandemic

April 8, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC** —The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has [expanded temporary guidance](#) provided in a March 14, 2020, [memorandum](#) regarding supply shortages of N95s or other filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This expanded guidance applies to all workplaces covered by OSHA where there is required respirator use. OSHA field offices will exercise enforcement discretion concerning annual fit-testing requirements, as long as employers have made good-faith efforts to comply with the requirements of the Respira-

tory Protection standard and to follow the steps outlined in the March 14, 2020 memorandum.

Employers should assess their engineering controls, work practices, and administrative controls on an ongoing basis to identify any changes they can make to decrease the need for N95s or other FFRs. When reassessing these controls and practices, employers should, for example, consider whether it is possible to increase the use of wet methods or portable local exhaust systems or to move operations outdoors. In some instances, an employer may also consider taking steps to temporarily suspend certain non-essential operations.

In light of concerns about a shortage of fit-testing kits and test solutions, OSHA encourages employers to prioritize use of fit-testing equipment to

protect employees who must use respirators for high-hazard procedures. In the absence of fit-testing capabilities, if a user's respirator model is out of stock, employers should consult the manufacturer to see if it recommends a different model that fits similarly to the model used previously by employees. OSHA field offices may exercise additional enforcement discretion when an employer switches to an equivalent-fitting make/model/size/style N95 or other filtering facepiece respirator without first performing an initial quantitative or qualitative fit test.

This expanded guidance will take effect immediately and remain in effect until further notice. It is intended to be time-limited to the current public health crisis. ■

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS



**"Providing Leadership & Direction to  
the Safety Professional since 1911"**

## U.S. Department of Labor Issues Alert to Keep Retail Workers Safe During Coronavirus Pandemic Health

April 8, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC**—The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued an alert listing safety tips employers can follow to help protect retail workers from exposure to coronavirus.

Safety measures employers can implement to protect employees working in pharmacies, supermarkets, big box

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov). The Department's [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).

## U.S. Department of Labor Issues Alert to Keep Package Delivery Workers Safe During COVID-19 Pandemic

April 13, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC**—The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued an alert listing safety tips employers can follow to help protect package delivery workers from exposure to coronavirus.

Safety measures employers can implement to protect employees in the package delivery industry include:

- Establishing flexible work hours

stores and other retail establishments include:

- Routinely cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and equipment with Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals from List N or that have label claims against the coronavirus;
- Using a drive-through window or offering curbside pick-up;
- Recommending that workers wear masks over their nose and mouth to prevent them from spreading the virus; and
- Practicing sensible social distancing, which could include opening only every other cash register, temporarily moving workstations to create more distance and installing plexiglass partitions between workstations.

(e.g., staggered shifts) where feasible;

- Minimizing interaction between drivers and customers by leaving deliveries at loading docks, doorsteps or other locations that do not require person-to-person exposures;
- Promoting personal hygiene. If workers do not have access to soap and water for handwashing, provide alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60 percent alcohol. Provide disinfectants and disposable towels workers can use to clean work surfaces, including vehicle interiors;
- Allowing workers to wear masks over their nose and mouth to prevent them from spreading the virus;
- Using [Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals from List N](#) or that have label claims against the coronavirus;

The new alert is available for download in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Visit [OSHA's Publications webpage](#) for other useful workplace safety information.

The alert is the latest effort by OSHA to educate and protect America's workers and employers during the coronavirus pandemic. OSHA has also published [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#), a document aimed at helping workers and employers learn about ways to protect themselves and their workplaces during the ongoing pandemic.

Visit OSHA's [COVID-19 webpage](#) frequently for updates. For further information about coronavirus, please visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). ▀

and

- Encouraging workers to report any safety and health concerns.

Visit [OSHA's Publications webpage](#) for other useful workplace safety information.

The alert is the latest effort by OSHA to educate and protect America's workers and employers during the coronavirus pandemic. OSHA has also published [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#), a document aimed at helping workers and employers learn about ways to protect themselves and their workplaces during the ongoing pandemic. ▀

Check OSHA's [COVID-19 webpage](#) at [www.osha.gov/coronavirus](http://www.osha.gov/coronavirus) frequently for updates. For further information about coronavirus, please visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).



## U.S. Department of Labor Cites Three Employers After Worker In- jured at Northwestern University

April 3, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited three employers – Northwestern University, Hill Mechanical Corp. and National Heat & Power Corp. – for exposing workers to permit-required confined space hazards associated with underground steam vaults. Proposed penalties for the three companies total \$235,962.

OSHA received an employer-reported referral from Hill Mechanical Corp. after an employee suffered burns from a release of steam while working in a steam vault at Northwestern's Evanston Campus.

OSHA determined that Northwestern University contracted Hill Mechanical Corp. to make needed steam repairs and that neither company implemented adequate permit-required confined space safety measures.

OSHA [cited](#) Northwestern University for failing to provide required information to contractors and coordinate activities, identify and evaluate high-pressure steam as a hazard, isolate steam energy, perform air monitoring, provide required signage, complete entry permits, evaluate their confined space hazard program and ensure the ability to rescue employees from a confined space. The university faces penalties of \$105,835 for nine serious violations.

OSHA also [cited](#) Hill Mechanical Corp. for failing to obtain information from the host employer and coordinate activities, identify and evaluate hazards of the space, isolate steam energy, perform air monitoring, complete entry permits, provide required confined space training and ensure the ability to rescue employees from a confined space. The company faces penalties of \$105,835 for nine serious violations.

National Heat & Power Corp. – the contractor brought in to complete the repairs – faces penalties of \$24,292 for four serious [violations](#) involving failing

ing workers from using other workers' phones, desks and other work equipment; and using Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals with label claims against the coronavirus.

The new poster is available for [download in English](#), or [Spanish](#).

[Visit OSHA's Publications webpage](#) for other useful workplace safety information.

The release is the latest effort by OSHA to educate and protect America's workers and employers during the coronavirus pandemic. In response to President Trump's action to increase the availability of general use respirators, OSHA has issued a series of guidances that expand access to respira-

to obtain information from the host employer, adequately isolate steam energy, provide required confined space training and complete entry permits.

"Employers on multi-employer job sites must coordinate tasks and train workers on jobsite hazards to prevent injuries," said OSHA Chicago North Area Director Angeline Loftus.

"Workers in confined spaces face increased risk of exposure to serious physical injury from confinement and limited access, making this coordination even more important."

OSHA provides information on what employers must do to limit worker exposures to [confined space hazards](#).

The company has 15 business days from receipt of the citations and penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director, or contest the findings before the independent [Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission](#). ▀

The mission of the Department of Labor is to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

tors in the workplace. OSHA has also published Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, a guidance aimed at helping workers and employers learn about ways to protect themselves and their workplaces during the ongoing pandemic.

Visit OSHA's [coronavirus webpage](#) frequently for updates. For further information about coronavirus, please visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). ▀

## U.S. Department of Labor Publishes New OSHA Poster Aimed At Reducing Workplace Exposure to the Coronavirus

April 6, 2020

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a new poster listing steps all workplaces can take to reduce the risk of exposure to coronavirus.

The poster highlights 10 infection prevention measures every employer can implement to protect workers' safety and health during the coronavirus pandemic. Safety measures include encouraging sick workers to stay home; establishing flexible worksites and staggered work shifts; discourag-





**A Note About the COVID-19 Response and Updates** Although NIOSH is continuing to share important updates about NIOSH research and activities in our monthly eNews newsletter, we will also be sharing updates about the important work NIOSH is doing to support the COVID-19 response. We are providing additional updates in weekly eNews Flashes to help keep you up to date on the latest [CDC and NIOSH COVID-19 information and guidance](#). We encourage you to share these resources with others who may find this information useful as well.

### COVID-19 pandemic: Construction ‘one of our more challenging workplaces,’ NIOSH’s Howard says

April 2, 2020

Itasca, IL — Many construction projects are still underway despite the majority of states issuing [stay-at-home orders](#) during the [COVID-19 pandemic](#) to help stop the spread of the disease, according to NIOSH Director John Howard.

Howard was the featured speaker on a [March 31 webinar](#) – the second in a series aimed at providing workers and employers updates on the pandemic – hosted by the National Safety Council in conjunction with NIOSH.

“State governors have issued stay-at-home orders and have frequently exempted construction and declared it to be essential,” he said. “It’s probably one of our more challenging workplaces.”

Construction workers are often in close quarters and areas that aren’t well-ventilated. Howard encouraged construction employers, workers and unions to partner and create a shared set of best practices to help keep workers safe and healthy.

Among the most common best practices to follow are physical distancing guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention when on the jobsite and making appropriate personal protective equipment available.

“We should separate workers as much as we can,” Howard said. “And, when we can’t, we make sure they’re well-protected.”

Other best practices include:

- Encouraging sick workers to stay home.
- Having forepersons ask workers to self-identify symptoms of illnesses. For COVID-19, symptoms include a fever, coughing and shortness of breath.
- Screening all visitors to the site.
- Performing temperature checks of workers, preferably with no-contact thermometers.
- Continuing toolbox talks, but making sure they’re done

with proper physical distancing of 6 feet between each worker.

- Identifying choke points in buildings under construction and working to resolve them.
- Minimizing worker interaction when equipment or supplies are picked up or delivered.
- Modifying work schedules by staggering shifts, or offering alternate days of work or extra shifts to reduce the number of workers on a site at one time.
- Restricting access to closed or confined spaces.
- Not sharing water bottles.
- Disinfecting shared equipment (e.g., tools and vehicles) before and after each use.
- Providing workers with handwashing stations. If water isn’t available onsite, employers should make hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol readily available.

For large construction sites, Howard encouraged employers to have a specific COVID-19 officer onsite.

When it comes to PPE, “gloves should always be worn, depending on the task. And don’t share,” Howard said. “Eye protection is a must. For workers who have to work in close quarters, they should use appropriate PPE and augment ventilation in those areas.”

### Anxiety and fear among employees

“This is an important issue we don’t talk about enough,” Howard said. “This is a very stressful period of time for all of us. Employers should pay attention to it.”

He recommended that workers use employee assistance programs and other resources that employers make available.

### Cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting

It’s important to understand that these three terms aren’t interchangeable when talking about precautions to prevent exposure.

“Cleaning is getting the dirt out,” Howard said. “Sanitizing is what’s used in public health a lot to get down to a certain level of bacteria – sometimes 95% is killed. Disinfection is killing everything. That’s where you want to aim.”

# How to Protect Yourself and Others

## Know how it spreads



- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- **The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.**
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
  - » Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
  - » Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
  - » These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
  - » Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

## Everyone should

### Clean your hands often



- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.

### Avoid close contact



- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick.
- **Stay at home as much as possible.**
- **Put distance between yourself and other people.**
  - » Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.
  - » This is especially important for **people who are at higher risk of getting very sick**. [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html)



CS 316291A 04/16/2020

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

## Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others



- **You could spread COVID-19 to others** even if you do not feel sick.
- **Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public**, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities.
  - » Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- **The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people** in case you are infected.
- Do **NOT** use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker.
- Continue to **keep about 6 feet between yourself and others**. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.

## Cover coughs and sneezes



- **If you are in a private setting and do not have on your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- **Throw used tissues** in the trash.
- Immediately **wash your hands** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

## Clean and disinfect



- **Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces** daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/disinfecting-your-home.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/disinfecting-your-home.html)
- **If surfaces are dirty, clean them:** Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)





## HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS

### Working From Home?

March 31, 2020

With shelter-in-place orders in effect throughout much of the United States because of the [COVID-19 pandemic](#), millions of people are working remotely. This presents unique challenges and safety concerns.

#### Keep ergonomics in mind

Whether you're working in a dedicated home office or at your kitchen table, good ergonomics is necessary to maintain good overall health and help prevent back, shoulder and neck pain. To set up your home workstation, follow these tips from Mayo Clinic:

- Adjust your chair so your

feet rest on the floor and your knees are level with your hips. If your chair doesn't offer proper lumbar support, put a cushion or pillow between the curve of your back and the back of your chair.

- Keep everything you'll need for the day, including your phone and documents, close to your body to avoid unnecessary stretching.
- Keep your wrist in a straight position – not bent up or down – when typing.
- Use a phone headset if you have one. This will prevent you from cradling the phone between your neck

and shoulder.

- Keep your screen about an arm's length in front of you.
- Be mindful of lighting. Avoid glare by keeping bright light sources to the side of your screen.

#### Check it twice

The Office of Personnel Management points out that remote workers are responsible for maintaining a safe home office. The agency offers a safety checklist:

- Do you have a working smoke detector nearby?
- Do you have fire extinguishers at home, and do you know how to use

them?

- Do you have an evacuation plan in place in the event of a fire?
- Is your floor clear of hazards?
- Are carpets well secured to the floor and free of frayed or worn seams?

To view the full checklist, visit [telework.gov/federal-community/telework-employees/safety-checklist](https://telework.gov/federal-community/telework-employees/safety-checklist). ■

This article originally appeared in [Safety+Health](#) on March 31.

### COVID-19 pandemic: NIH website pulls together online training resources for frontline workers

March 26, 2020

Washington — The National Institutes of Health has launched a [website](#) featuring educational resources intended for workers who are at greatest risk of exposure during the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).

According to a March 23 press release, the worker-based training initiative is aimed at preventing and limiting exposure among hospital employees, emergency first responders and other at-risk workers, and is being administered by NIH's National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

As of March 24, the website had 30 training resources from various colleges and universities, as well as other government agencies. Links to NIEHS Worker Training Program resources also are included.

The WTP, which awards grant money for training and development of educational resources, will serve as a clearinghouse, with the objective of growing the number

of up-to-the-minute resources available.

Initially, the focus of the initiative is to build a virtual safety training delivery platform with the help of private-sector e-learning companies to allow for rapid delivery of web-based training for high-risk professionals, including emergency medical personnel, firefighters, law enforcement officers and environmental cleanup workers, as well as high-risk employees in custodial service, food processing and delivery, water and sewage treatment, sanitation, and health care facilities.

“These men and women are so dedicated, and as they work so hard to serve and protect the public during this COVID-19 pandemic, I want to make sure they know how to protect their own health, too,” Joseph “Chip” Hughes, chief of the worker education and training branch at NIEHS, said in the release. “We don't need them getting sick, or taking the virus back to their families or their communities.”

This effort was made possible by supplemental appropriation funding of \$10 million as part of an \$8.3 billion federal emer-

gency funding package included in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act ([H.R. 6201](#)), signed into law by President Donald Trump on March 18. The law directs federal agencies, such as NIH, to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic through their work.

On March 11, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. The illness is reportedly linked to a large seafood and animal market in Wuhan, China, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In the United States and its territories, as of March 24, 44,183 people in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands had been diagnosed and 544 had died, the agency states. ■

This article originally appeared in [Safety+Health](#) on March 26, 2020.



[Safety+Health](#) is the official magazine of the National Safety Council. You can sign up for free monthly newsletters [here](#).



Consumer Product  
Safety Commission  
4330 East West Hwy  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)



US Health & Human Services  
Food & Drug Administration  
10903 New Hampshire Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD 20993  
[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)



**NHTSA**  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC  
SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Nat'l Highway Traffic Safety Admin.  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
[www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)

## FEATURED SAFETY RECALLS

### Important: CPSC Recall Remedy Notice Due to COVID-19

Due to the extraordinary circumstances surrounding COVID-19, some of the remedies identified in recall press releases may not be available at this time. Consumers should check with recalling firms for further details.

*It is important to remember that CPSC and recalling firms urge consumers not to use recalled products.*

- 3/26: Chevrolet Bolt: Rear Doors May Open While Driving: [is.gd/H6Dudu](https://is.gd/H6Dudu)
- 4/2: Manhattan Toy Recalls Musical Lili Llama Due to Choking Hazard: [is.gd/8RBpR4](https://is.gd/8RBpR4)
- 4/2: Southern Motion Recalls "Wireless Power" Reclining Furniture Due to Fire Hazard: [is.gd/S8GZ72](https://is.gd/S8GZ72)
- 4/2: VP Harrier and Giant Pinner Bicycle Pedals Recalled Due to Fall and Injury Hazards: [is.gd/CTHvaG](https://is.gd/CTHvaG)
- 4/2: Stelpro Design Recalls Sonoma Wall Fan Heaters Due to Fire Hazard: [is.gd/X61BvV](https://is.gd/X61BvV)
- 4/6: Joybird Recalls Dressers Due to Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards: [is.gd/j85ljo](https://is.gd/j85ljo)
- 4/6: Peterbilt 330, 335, 337, 340, 348, 365, 367, 384, 386, 387, 388, 389, 567, 579 and 587 and Kenworth T170, T270, T370, T660, T680, T800, T880, and W900: Driver Not Warned When ABS Offline: [is.gd/iusSA3](https://is.gd/iusSA3)
- 4/8: Continuum Recalls Lenox Tea Kettles Due to Burn Hazard: [is.gd/S09h3o](https://is.gd/S09h3o)
- 4/9: Camso Recalls Yeti SnowMX Conversion Kits Due to Crash Hazard: [is.gd/cYNKMH](https://is.gd/cYNKMH)
- 4/9: Pass & Seymour Recalls Commercial-Grade Electrical Receptacles Due to Burn Hazard: [is.gd/Ofkb0c](https://is.gd/Ofkb0c)
- 4/9: Chrysler Ram 1500 and Jeep Compass: Windshield Wipers May Not Operate Properly: [is.gd/eFnD0x](https://is.gd/eFnD0x)
- 4/16: MTD Southwest Recalls Trimmers and Polesaws Due to Laceration Hazard: [is.gd/Vl8Hlo](https://is.gd/Vl8Hlo)
- 4/16: Dr. Adorable Recalls Sweet Birch Essential Oil Due to Failure to Meet Child Resistant Packaging Requirement; Risk of Poisoning; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com: [is.gd/s7eVFL](https://is.gd/s7eVFL)
- 4/16: The Vitamin Shoppe Recalls Energy Formula Multivitamins Due to Failure to Meet Child Resistant Packaging Requirement; Risk of Poisoning: [is.gd/3k8LeS](https://is.gd/3k8LeS)
- 4/16: Wyndmere Naturals Recalls Birch Sweet Essential Oil and Aches & Pains Synergistic Essential Oil Blend Due to Failure to Meet Child Resistant Packaging Requirement; Risk of Poisoning: [is.gd/qVL8TL](https://is.gd/qVL8TL)
- 4/16: Polaris Recalls PRO XD and Ranger Utility Vehicles Due to Injury Hazard and 2018-2020 Ranger XP 1000 Off-Road Vehicles due to Fire Hazard: [is.gd/aNullX](https://is.gd/aNullX) and [is.gd/mmlO1F](https://is.gd/mmlO1F) and [is.gd/gZ1nTm](https://is.gd/gZ1nTm)
- 4/21: Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc Recalls Single Production Lot of 5.5 Oz Cans of Pink Lite Cranberry Juice Drink Because of Undeclared Sulfites: [is.gd/dbTN4f](https://is.gd/dbTN4f)
- 4/23: Natural Health Partners, Naturo Sciences, BioFinest, Essential Trading Post Recall Dr. Mercola, Eiji Essentials, Wintergreen Essential Oils Due to Failure to Meet Child Resistant Packaging Requirement; Risk of Poisoning: [is.gd/TrTY8E](https://is.gd/TrTY8E) and [is.gd/0pzxmf](https://is.gd/0pzxmf) and [is.gd/MFx7Oy](https://is.gd/MFx7Oy) and [is.gd/edv0ox](https://is.gd/edv0ox)
- 4/23: LUS Recalls Hair Dryers Due to Electrocution or Shock Hazard: [is.gd/jvHXgR](https://is.gd/jvHXgR)
- 4/23: Leviton Manufacturing Recalls Electrical Connection Devices Due to Shock Hazard: [is.gd/74t01h](https://is.gd/74t01h)
- 4/30: Ximi Vogue Recalls Children's Neck Pillows—Violation of the Federal Lead Paint Ban; Risk of Poisoning: [is.gd/DYOwO4](https://is.gd/DYOwO4)
- 4/30: Bellman & Symfon Recalls Flash Receivers for Reduced Hearing Persons; Unit Can Fail to Alert in an Emergency: [is.gd/9ELbOL](https://is.gd/9ELbOL)
- 4/30: Modular Robotics Recalls Rechargeable Battery Packs Due to Burn Hazard: [is.gd/DnbWfy](https://is.gd/DnbWfy)

**PRODUCT  
RECALL**

*Note: Agency logos are used here solely for identification and familiarity purposes, and do not constitute an endorsement by those agencies.*



## HELPFUL LINKS AND OTHER INFORMATION

American Industrial Hygiene Association

[www.aiha.org](http://www.aiha.org)

American Red Cross

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

American Society of Safety Professionals Main Website

[www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org)

ASSP Center for Safety and Health Sustainability

[www.centershhs.org](http://www.centershhs.org)

ASSP Learning Library

[www.safetybok.org](http://www.safetybok.org)

ASSP Risk Assessment Institute

[www.assp.org/advocacy/risk-assessment-institute](http://www.assp.org/advocacy/risk-assessment-institute)

Cal/OSHA

California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH)

[www.dir.ca.gov/dosh](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh)

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)

Electronic Library of Construction Occupational Safety & Health

[www.elcosh.org/index.php](http://www.elcosh.org/index.php)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

FEMA “Be Ready” Website

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)

Food and Drug Administration

[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)

Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)

[www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov)

National Institute of Health Sciences (NIH)

[www.niehs.nih.gov](http://www.niehs.nih.gov)

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

[www.cdc.gov/niosh](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh)

National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA)

[www.cdc.gov/nora](http://www.cdc.gov/nora)

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

OSHA Silica Fact Sheets

[www.osha.gov/pls/publications/publication.searchresults?pSearch=Controlling+Silica+Dust+in+Construction+&pSearch=](http://www.osha.gov/pls/publications/publication.searchresults?pSearch=Controlling+Silica+Dust+in+Construction+&pSearch=)

OSHA Silica Frequently Asked Questions

[www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/generalindustry\\_info\\_silica.html](http://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/generalindustry_info_silica.html)

San Diego ASSP Website

[sandiego.assp.org](http://sandiego.assp.org)

US Chemical Safety Board (CSB)

[www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov)

### The COVID Corner



#### City of San Diego

[www.sandiego.gov/coronavirus](http://www.sandiego.gov/coronavirus)

Status of City Services: [www.sandiego.gov/status](http://www.sandiego.gov/status)

#### County of San Diego

[www.sandiegocounty.gov/coronavirus](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/coronavirus)

211 San Diego: [211sandiego.org](http://211sandiego.org)

Sheriff's Department: [www.sdsheriff.net](http://www.sdsheriff.net)

Office of Education: [covid-19.sdcoe.net](http://covid-19.sdcoe.net)

#### State of California

[covid19.ca.gov](http://covid19.ca.gov)

Employment Development Department: [www.edd.ca.gov/about\\_edd/coronavirus-2019.htm](http://www.edd.ca.gov/about_edd/coronavirus-2019.htm)

Cal/OSHA: [www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html)

Department of Public Health: [cdph.ca.gov/covid19](http://cdph.ca.gov/covid19)

#### Federal Government

[www.coronavirus.gov](http://www.coronavirus.gov)

The White House: [www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/coronavirus-guidelines-america](http://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/coronavirus-guidelines-america)

OSHA: [www.osha.gov/coronavirus](http://www.osha.gov/coronavirus)

CDC: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV)

#### Global/Nongovernmental Resources

ASSP: [www.assp.org/covid-19](http://www.assp.org/covid-19)

Johns Hopkins: [coronavirus.jhu.edu](http://coronavirus.jhu.edu)

United Nations: [www.un.org/en/coronavirus](http://www.un.org/en/coronavirus)

World Health Organization (WHO):

[www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019](http://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)

AIHA Back to Work Safely: [www.backtoworksafely.org](http://www.backtoworksafely.org)