

Safety Update

Ohio BWC Library



Trenching Safety webinar

BWC's Division of Safety & Hygiene is offering a Trenching Safety webinar **May 4 at 3:30 p.m.** The two-hour webinar provides an overview on identifying risk factors related to trenching and excavation sites. [Learn more and register here](#). Additionally, our [Trench Safety Ohio website](#) provides resources and information on safe trenching work practices.

Ohio BWC News

Safety Council Rebate Program Update

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, we directed the cancellation of safety council meetings for March through June 2020. As a result, it is not possible for many members to complete the Safety Council Rebate Program's FY20 eligibility requirements. Therefore, we will award the FY20 rebate to rebate-eligible safety council members who, as of Feb. 29, 2020, had attended at least FOUR safety council meetings based on safety council sponsors' records. We also have waived the program's CEO attendance and calendar year 2019 semi-annual report requirements. For more information, visit the [Safety Councils webpage](#).

COVID-19 Resources

BWC has prepared a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document to provide information about the COVID-19's impact on BWC operations. We're monitoring the situation closely and will provide updates as necessary. For more information on Ohio's response to COVID-19, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov or call **1-833-4-ASK-ODH**.

New Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Documents

- **COVID-19 Guidance for Retail Workers:** This OSHA Alert lists safety tips to help protect retail workers from exposure to COVID-19. It is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- **COVID-19 Guidance for the Package Delivery Workforce:** This OSHA Alert lists safety tips to protect package delivery workers from exposure to COVID-19. It is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- **Ten Steps All Workplaces Can Take to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Coronavirus:** This OSHA safety poster highlights infection prevention measures all workplaces can take to protect workers from COVID-19. It is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- **Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19:** This OSHA document is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Other News

List of Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has a [list of disinfectant products](#) that meet the criteria to disinfect against the virus that causes COVID-19. The list can be downloaded as a CSV or PDF file. It includes the product name, active ingredients, and the amount of time the surface should be treated.

NIOSH/CDC News

Worker Health Charts

[NIOSH Worker Health Charts](#) on the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) website use worker data from NIOSH and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Users can create charts to discover trends in workplace injuries, illness, and deaths. The data is broken out by exposures, health and safety behaviors, health status, and more.

Health Hazard Evaluations

NIOSH staff perform health hazard evaluations at businesses based on employee requests. Hazards reviewed can include chemicals, particulates, noise, radiation, biological agents, ergonomics, heat, and stress. Users can access reports from these evaluations, which include recommendations for abatement of hazards, on the NIOSH Health [Hazard Evaluations website](#).

Teleworking Safety

Working safely from home is important. The federal website Telework.gov provides a [safety checklist](#) for teleworking.

Virtual Reality and Safety Training

This [article](#) from Safety+Health magazine describes benefits and concerns around the use of virtual reality in safety training. The benefits include better memory retention, the ability to train on equipment that is not typically available, and the ability to train on a dangerous piece of equipment before use in the real world. The concerns include actual physical hazards, motion sickness, and costs of equipment.

Mining Deaths

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) reported 2019 had the second lowest number of deaths in the mining industry since the data was recorded. There were 15 [metal/nonmetal miners](#) and 12 [coal miner](#) deaths.

MSHA Safety Alert

MSHA issued a [Safety Alert](#) in response to several deaths in the mining industry caused by damaged or defective welds on aerial lifts. The alert contains best practices for welding and inspections of equipment for damage or defects.

Ladder Safety Training

The American Ladder Institute has [free ladder safety training](#) you can take from its website. Learn proper selection, care, and safe use of all types of ladders, including stepladders, single and extension ladders, articulated ladders, and mobile ladders. Simply register for an account, select the ladder type, and watch the video. There is a test with each video.

Welding Safety Training and Documents

The American Welding Society (AWS) has [free welding safety training](#) available on its website. There are 10 modules ideal for anyone engaged in welding, cutting, brazing, or soldering. Also available from the site is the American National Safety Institute [Z49.1 Safety in Welding Standard](#) and [AWS welding safety fact sheets](#).

Railroad Crossing Safety Video

This [new video](#) from the non-profit rail safety education organization Operation Lifesaver shows drivers of cement, dump, and garbage trucks how to safely navigate railroad crossings along their routes to avoid tragedy at the tracks.

CPWR Data Bulletin

The Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) issued a new data series for construction. CPWR issues the [Data Bulletin](#) six times per year. The inaugural edition has information on health insurance coverage in the construction industry. The data indicate that one in four construction workers does not have health insurance coverage.

New Chemical Safety Board Animation

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board released an [updated animation](#) of the events at the BP America Refinery in Texas City, Texas, when a massive hydrocarbon release and ensuing explosion and fire killed 15 and injured 180 others. The board announced a forthcoming interactive training application based on this event that uses this animation.

Please contact the library@bwc.state.oh.us or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.

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