

# Safety Update

## Ohio BWC Library

### National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the US Department of Homeland Security. One goal of Homeland Security is to educate the public about how to prepare for emergencies, including natural disasters, mass casualties, biological and chemical threats, radiation emergencies, and terrorist attacks.

Information on disaster preparedness including tornados, floods, blackouts, and wildfires can be found at [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov) website. A [National Preparedness Month](#) toolkit kit is available to download for free.

For National Preparedness Month, the SBA and Agility Recovery will co-host free webinars focused on different aspects of business continuity following a major disaster or extreme weather event.

The webinars will be held on Wednesdays, at 2 p.m. EDT:

- Sept. 11 | Protecting Your Organization by Preparing Your Employees > [Click to register](#)
- Sept. 18 | The NEW 10 Steps to Preparedness - Lessons from the Past > [Click to register](#)
- Sept. 25 | Crisis Communications for any Organization > [Click to register](#)

### Driving and Pedestrian Safety

#### Everyone is a Pedestrian

DOT announced new tools to help communities diminish the number of pedestrian deaths, which has been on the rise over the last two years. As part of the campaign, the Department's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has collaborated with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), to launch a new website, [www.nhtsa.gov/everyoneisapedestrian](http://www.nhtsa.gov/everyoneisapedestrian), with safety tips, statistics and resources for local leaders, city planners, parents and others involved in improving pedestrian safety.

#### Occupational Highway Transportation Deaths Among Workers Aged ≥55 Years - United States, 2003–2010

Highway transportation incidents are the leading cause of US occupational fatalities; workers 65 & older at highest risk. Find out how employers can help reduce risks of motor vehicle crashes for older workers in the latest [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#)

#### Gear Up For Safe Driving

The Network of Employers for Traffic Safety is offering a free online toolkit to help employers improve driving performance and safety awareness of employees, employees' family members, and their communities. The 2013 Drive Safely Work Week toolkit was developed by NETS, which is a partnership of private-sector companies and the federal government. <http://trafficsafety.org/>

## It Can Wait Campaign

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- **Distracted Driving Documentary on YouTube**

A group of major wireless carriers is distributing a new, 35-minute documentary film by famed director Werner Herzog. "From One Second to the Next" tells how four texting while driving accidents changed, in the blink of an eye, the lives of everyone involved.

The It Can Wait® campaign is trying to raise awareness about the dangers of texting while driving. The campaign asks members of the public to take a pledge not to text while driving

The film is available to view on [YouTube](#)

- **It Can Wait Website**

This [website](#), promoted by cell phone service providers focuses on educating people about the dangers of texting and driving. The message is simple, yet vital: When it comes to texting and driving, it can wait. The site allows individuals to publicly take a pledge not to text and drive and contains testimonials and information about the consequences of distracted driving.

## NIOSH News

### Workplace Violence Prevention Course for Nurses

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The purpose of this [free online course](#) from the Centers for Disease Control is to help healthcare workers better understand the scope and nature of violence in the healthcare workplace. Participants will learn how to recognize the key elements of a comprehensive workplace violence prevention program, how organizational systems impact workplace violence, how to apply individual strategies, and develop skills for preventing and responding to workplace violence. Content is derived from content experts and from the OSHA 2004 Guidelines for Preventing Workplace Violence for Health Care & Social Service Workers ([OSHA 3148-01R 2004](#)).

### Nanotechnology Information

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Sponsored by NIOSH and Oregon State University, the [GoodNanoGuide](#) is a collaboration platform designed to enhance the ability of experts to exchange ideas on how best to handle nanomaterials in an occupational setting. It is meant to be an interactive forum that fills the need for up-to-date information about current good workplace practices, highlighting new practices as they develop.

### NIOSH Fast Facts: Protecting Yourself from Poisonous Plants

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This summer has had high temperatures, high humidity and lots of rain. The unusual weather has led to a bumper crop of poison ivy and other rash-producing plants, according to some allergy specialists! Any person working outdoors is at risk of exposure to poisonous plants, such as poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac. When in contact with skin, the sap oil (urushiol) of these plants can cause an allergic reaction. Burning these poisonous plants produces smoke that, when inhaled, can cause lung irritation. This information from NIOSH will help you protect yourself. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2010-118/>

## Young Workers

OSHA has a website dedicated to young worker safety that includes sections geared towards workers, parents and educators, and employers. It contains information on job hazards that commonly apply to young workers, labor laws and safety regulations, and links to other resources. Check it out at <https://www.osha.gov/youngworkers/index.html>.

## OSHA Fall Prevention Campaign Ladder Publications

OSHA has partnered with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) - Construction Sector on this nationwide outreach campaign to raise awareness among workers and employers about common fall hazards in construction, and how falls from ladders, scaffolds and roofs can be prevented and lives can be saved.

Falling Off Ladders Can Kill: Use Them Safely – [Booklet](#) (English and Spanish) 16 pages

Safe Use of Extension Ladders - [Fact Sheet](#) (English) 3 pages

Safe Use of Job-made Wooden Ladders - [Fact Sheet](#) (English) 2 pages

Safe Use of Stepladders - [Fact Sheet](#) (English) 2 pages

## 1-bromopropane Hazard Alert

OSHA and NIOSH issued a [hazard alert](#) highlighting the dangers of the solvent 1-bromopropane.

1-BP is used in degreasing operations, adhesive spray applications, dry cleaning and fiber manufacturing.

Exposure to 1-BP can cause irritation (for example, of the eyes, mucous membranes, upper airways and skin) and can damage the nervous system.

## Other News

### Fire by the Numbers Newsletter

[Fire by the numbers](#) is a new quarterly newsletter from NFPA's Fire Analysis & Research Division. The goal is to provide links to the latest statistics, news and fire research reports.

### Occupational Health and Safety Resource Center

The [Occupational Health and Safety Resource Center](#) is a virtual repository of Spanish educational materials, related to agricultural work created by programs at UC Berkeley School of Public Health and UC Davis. The objective is to facilitate a central access point to high quality resources for people conducting work on health promotion and prevention activities and on workers' rights and problems related to agricultural work. The materials cover five key relevant areas: 1) Farmworkers' rights; 2) Injury prevention; 3) Respiratory illnesses; 4) Heat illnesses; and 5) Pesticide exposure.

### National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2012 (Preliminary Results)

A preliminary total of 4,383 fatal work injuries were recorded in the United States in 2012, down from a revised count of 4,693 fatal work injuries in 2011, according to results from the [Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries](#) (CFOI) conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 2012 total represents the second lowest preliminary total since CFOI was first conducted in 1992. The rate of fatal work injury for U.S. workers in 2012 was 3.2 per 100,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers, down from a rate of 3.5 per 100,000 in 2011. Revised 2012 data from CFOI will be released in the late Spring of 2014.

Please contact the [library@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:library@bwc.state.oh.us) or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.