

# BWC Update

Safety news from the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

## Playing it safe in a confined space

Your employees can face a number of hazards when working in confined spaces. The risk of a cave in, collapse, or asphyxiation is present at every moment spent working in these dangerous areas. Regardless of your workers' level of experience, employers in the agriculture industry must always inform their employees of the hazards and available escape routes.

BWC provides instructional resources and tools for employers to help reduce confined space incidents at their work sites. These include:

- Identifying all potential confined spaces;
- Prohibiting unauthorized entry to confined spaces;
- Establishing safe entry and rescue procedures for each space;
- Providing training on safe entry and rescue equipment.

BWC also offers training courses as well as professional safety consultations on the identification and assessment of confined spaces, and necessary personal protective equipment. These services are available to your business at no additional charge.

Using these and other BWC recommended control measures and services can help protect your workers from other dangers present in your workplace, including:

- Airborne dust, fumes, and vapors;
- Striking against objects;
- Overexertion due to material handling and repetitive, awkward postures;
- Slips, trips, and falls.

Employers that have used our safety services in the past have seen reductions in the amount of injury claims in the area of intervention. The use of these safety measures could prevent costly injuries, but most importantly, save a life.

More information is available about preventing injuries in the agriculture industry by [clicking here](#).

For more information, connect with a BWC safety consultant at 1-866-569-7805 or via email at [besafe@ohiobwc.com](mailto:besafe@ohiobwc.com).

