Autumn Worker Safety

As summer draws to a close, back-to-school season is in full effect. Remember to safely share the roads with other motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists, and remain mindful of weather, and traffic condition changes your spaces and work zones. When placing equipment back in service that has been idle since spring, ensure they are inspected, and necessary maintenance is performed for safe start-up.

Be Prepared for Changing Conditions
Since fall weather can change quickly, you should always be prepared for possible cold, windy, and wet weather, even if the sun is shining. Seek shelter indoors if thunderstorms approach, and be prepared to adjust work schedules if unexpected foul weather impacts operations. Have available, appropriate clothing, such as warm coats, rain gear, and gloves. The approach of winter and time changes also mean that as the season progresses, there will be less available daylight.

Watch Out for Ice
As the temperatures drop, drivers may have to deal with removing frost from windshields, and others, with starting equipment that may be sluggish, or may have slippery surfaces. Also, shady spots on the roadway may be home to black ice, which a driver may not be aware of until he or she is on top of it. This can also affect sidewalks, and outdoor steps, platforms, catwalks, etc. Ladder and lift work becomes more dangerous in wet and cold weather.

Watch for Increased Pedestrian Traffic
Now that school is back in session, be vigilant for additional pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Take extra care to avoid potentially dangerous encounters with individuals that may be distracted by electronic devices, or unable to hear because of the use of earbuds.

Use Caution with Space Heaters
A space heater can be an effective way to warm up a chilly room, but it’s essential that you read the instructions on the unit before you use it. Heaters must be UL listed, and have a grounded plug and tip over and overheating safeties. Only use heaters that are intended for this purpose. Always allow at least three feet of empty area around space heaters, and never use an extension cord with one of these appliances.

UPCOMING TRAINING

Monthly Safety Training - FO&M
Location: Boise State University, ENG 110
Date: September 13, 2017 - 7 - 8 AM

Lockout-Tagout Webinar
Location: Boise State University, MEC 202J
Date: September 13, 2017 - 11AM - Noon

First Aid, CPR, AED certification course
Location: Boise State University, MEC 202J
Date: September 18, 2017 - 8AM - Noon

SAFETY BRAIN TEASER

What’s wrong with this picture?

Last month’s teaser: Ladder being used improperly and is too short for access/egress. Operator doesn’t have positive control of the saw. Improper eye PPE, no hearing protection. Excavation is sloppily dug and needs to be shored.

WINNER!

Congratulations to Joseph Hunt, BSU electrical shop, winner of BOTH drawings in the 2017 Safety Stand Down Event.

Joe received a $40 Bronco Shop gift card, as well as $10 in Bronco Bucks!

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS...

Please feel free to contact us to provide feedback on the content of this newsletter, or to suggest topics that you would like to see addressed, or inquire about training you wish to participate in.

Reg Pope
Training and Development Coordinator, EHSS
Occupational Safety
(208) 426-3998
regpope@boisestate.edu

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