



AGC Safety Initiative E-News July 21, 2021

OUR Safety MISSION: Help each other enforce safety rules to ensure that every person on construction site goes home safe and healthy at end of the workday.

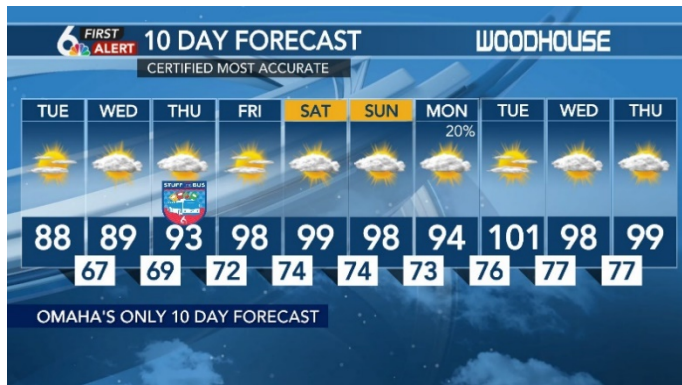
Calendar of Events – [Learn more](#)

[COVID-19 Resources Update](#) Updated information with quick references available.

MEMBER BENEFIT--Safety Meeting Outlines

July is renewal month for this member benefit. This is **52 “ready to deliver” safety toolbox talks**. Enhance your safety program for \$100 per year, save \$75 off retail. [Learn more](#) or contact [Vicki](#) for more information.

Heat alert for next week!



Signs of Heat Illness for Construction Workers

Identifying the signs of a heat illness for construction workers can help save the lives of you or your friends and coworkers. The two types of heat illness are heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Heat Exhaustion Symptoms

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Fainting
- Confusion
- Irritability
- Thirst
- Nausea or vomiting

Heat Stroke Symptoms

- Confusion
- Unconsciousness
- Seizures
- No sweating

What to Do

In order to prevent heat illness on the construction site, one should create a heat illness prevention plan to adhere to in the summer months. A break station with shade, ice water, cool rags, and fans can allow construction workers a space to recuperate during the day.

Training sessions can help provide you and your coworkers the information they need to take necessary precautions and identify heat illness on the jobsite. If possible, keep work schedules out of peak sun hours. Always be sure to have ample cold liquids and remain on the alert for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

If you see that someone has fallen ill from the heat, call your supervisor or 911. If you are sure they haven't broken anything, move the worker to a cooler area. Cool them down the best you can by removing extra clothing and using a fan and water to reduce their body temperature. If they can ingest it, give them water or a sports drink to sip on and replenish their fluids.

The summer months are a busy and lucrative time for construction workers. However, those same beautiful, sunny days can quickly turn dangerous if the proper measures aren't taken to avoid heat illness.

OSHA has revised its [National Emphasis Program on COVID-19](#) and updated its Interim Enforcement Response Plan.

According to a press release, the agency has included its [emergency temporary standard on COVID-19 for health care workers](#) in the NEP. **OSHA also has removed Appendix B – a list of “secondary target industries” that include building construction, food manufacturing and chemical manufacturing.** Meat and poultry processing is among the industries still covered by the NEP.

For non-health care establishments, OSHA inspectors will use the updated Interim Enforcement Response Plan published July 7. For health care establishments, the inspection procedures for the ETS apply. The agency issued those procedures June 28. According to the release, revisions to the Interim Enforcement Response Plan include:

- Enforcing protections for workers in non-health care industries who are unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated.
- Where respirator supplies and services are readily available, OSHA will stop exercising enforcement discretion for temporary noncompliance with the standard on respiratory protection based on employer claims of supply shortages as a result of the pandemic.
- OSHA will no longer exercise enforcement discretion for the same requirements in other health standards, where full compliance may have been difficult for some non-health care employers because of the pandemic.
- Updated instructions and guidance for OSHA area offices and inspectors for handling COVID-19-related complaints, referrals and severe illness reports.
- Ensuring workers are protected from retaliation.

“The goals of the IERP are to identify exposures to COVID-19 hazards, ensure appropriate control measures are implemented, and address violations of OSHA standards (other than the ETS) and the [General Duty Clause](#),” OSHA says. “The updated IERP will remain in effect until further notice and is intended to be time-limited to the current COVID-19 public health crisis.”

The ETS applies to “settings where any employees provide health care or health care support services,” such as hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Some exceptions apply, however, including “non-hospital ambulatory care settings” where non-employees are screened for COVID-19 before entering and individuals suspected of having or confirmed to have COVID-19 are not allowed to enter. OSHA has published a [flowchart](#) to help employers determine if their workplace is covered by the ETS.

Safety Initiative Goals:

As an AGC Nebraska Building Chapter member, are you participating with:

- 100% of all AGC members and other contractors on AGC jobsites enforcing OSHA standards as they apply to falls, electrical safety and possible another topic.
- 100% of all AGC members will have set their own company goals to improve safety in their firm and have a way to measure progress towards the goal.
- 100% of all AGC members will encourage and support all contractors on their jobsites to set their own company goals for improving safety.