



Weekly Safety Tip

“Your Connection for Workplace Safety”

Phone: 920-208-7520

We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!

Our Weekly Safety Tip provides valuable and current safety information relevant for Work, Home & Play.

And, you will be kept current on the latest Safety Compliance issues.



SCI SAFETY NEWS OR TIP



SCI OSHA NEWS OR COMPLIANCE



SCI HEALTHYLIVING and WELLNESS NEWS

We want to hear from you! Send us your feedback and give us ideas for future safety topics.

Let us know how you feel about our new look!

Safety Slogan

**Safety awareness
saves lives
James Lehrke-SCI**

of the week

SCI Safety Tip: Fuel for Thought: How to Handle Gasoline Safely

Source: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: February 1, 2008

At any price, gasoline can hurt more than your wallet. This week's Safety Training Tips offers employees ideas for safe handling of this necessary, but dangerous, stuff of modern life.

February 3-9 is *National Burn Awareness Week*. This event is sponsored by the Shriners Hospitals for Children, with this year's focus on preventing gasoline burns. Note: [\(The correct date for National Burn Awareness Week February 6-12 2011\).](#)

Most gasoline injuries are preventable if gas is properly used and safely stored. Here are some helpful gasoline safety tips from the American Burn Association that you can use to train your employees to handle gas with care:

- Don't smoke or use matches, lighters, or other ignition sources anywhere around gas. And remember that gas vapors can travel far from gas containers in enclosed areas.
- Use gasoline only in well-ventilated areas.
- Turn off equipment and let cool before filling the gas tank.
- Never use gasoline to start charcoal on a grill-use proper charcoal starter.
- Never use gas as a cleaning fluid or solvent—or to clean your hands.
- Don't store gas cans in your vehicle.
- Store gas in approved containers, in a cool, well-ventilated area (for example, in a shed or garage but never in the house), and only keep a minimum amount on hand.
- Never use glass or plastic bottles for gasoline storage.

If Someone Gets Burned

Burns, whether from gasoline or some other source, can be painful and sometimes need medical attention. The American Burn Association recommends seeking medical attention for:

- Burns to the face, hands, feet, genital area, or major joints (knees, elbows, shoulders)
- Chemical and electrical burns
- Burns that cover a large area
- Minor burns can usually be treated with first aid on the job or at home by flushing the area with cool water for a few minutes and covering it with sterile dressing from a first-aid kit. *Don't apply ointment, salves, creams, or ice to burns, and never break blisters.*

Even Breathing Gas Fumes Can Be Harmful

Gasoline can also be a health hazard if you inhale concentrated fumes for too long or get it on your skin. Symptoms of overexposure to gas vapors include:

- Respiratory problems such as coughing and trouble breathing
- Rash from skin contact with gasoline
- Irritation or burning in the eyes from gas splashes
- Dizziness
- Weakness, numbness in arms and legs, or burning sensation
- Rapid heart beat
- Nausea or vomiting

If an employee experiences any symptoms from inhaling gas vapors, he or she should get to fresh air immediately. If symptoms persist, the employee should seek medical treatment right away. If an employee becomes unconscious from breathing gas vapors, co-workers should call 911 immediately.

Why It Matters...

According to the National Fire Protection Association:

Nearly 150,000 fires occurring in the United States every year are caused by gasoline.

About 500 Americans die every year in gasoline-related fires.

Almost half a billion dollars in property damage can be linked to gasoline annually.

OSHA Fatal Facts: Explosion

Source: <http://www.osha.gov>

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Propane gas was being used to fuel a portable heater (blow torch). The torch flamed out, allowing gas to gather in the bilge area of a construction barge. The accumulated gas exploded with great force, killing the worker.

INSPECTION RESULTS

As a result of its investigation, OSHA issued citations for two serious violations of OSHA standards.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

The employer must:

1. Take precautions to provide sufficient ventilation to ensure proper combustion when operating portable heaters/blow torches in confined spaces, in accordance with Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1926.154(a)(2).
2. Ensure that portable heaters/blow torches are equipped with automatic shut-off devices to stop the flow of gas in the event of flame failure, in accordance with 29 CFR 1926.153(h)(8).

SOURCES OF HELP

- OSHA Construction Standards (Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1926) includes all OSHA job safety

and health rules and regulations covering construction, may be purchased from the Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800, fax (202) 512-2250, Order No. 869-032-00107-3, (\$31.00).

- OSHA-funded free consultation services listed in telephone directories under U.S. Labor Department or under the state government section where states administer their own OSHA programs.
- OSHA Safety and Health Training Guidelines for Construction, Volume III (Available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161; phone (703) 487-4650; Order no. PB-239-312/AS; Cost \$25.) to help construction employers establish a training program.
- Courses in construction safety are offered by the OSHA Training Institute, 1555 Times Drive, Des Plaines, IL 60018; phone (847) 297-4810.
- OSHA regulations, documents and technical information also are available on CD-ROM, which may be purchased from the Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800 or fax (202) 512-2250, order number 729-13-00000-5; cost \$43 annually; \$17 quarterly. That information also is on the Internet World Wide Web at <http://www.osha.gov/>

NOTE: The case here described was selected as being representative of fatalities caused by improper work practices. No special emphasis or priority is implied nor is the case necessarily a recent occurrence. The legal aspects of the incident have been resolved, and the case is now closed.

SCI Health News: Want Smarter Kids? Then Make Sure They Avoid This Widely Regarded Preventive...

Source: <http://www.mercola.com>

Date: February 5, 2011

In a nearly unprecedented about face, U.S. federal health officials admit Americans are getting too much fluoride. It's causing spots on children's teeth (dental fluorosis) and could be resulting in other, more serious problems.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has announced plans to lower the recommended level of fluoride in drinking water for the first time in nearly 50 years. The change in policy is based on a fresh review of the science. Yahoo News reports:

"The announcement is likely to renew the battle over fluoridation ... The Environmental Protection Agency released two new reviews of research on fluoride Friday. One of the studies found that prolonged, high intake of fluoride can increase the risk of brittle bones, fractures and crippling bone abnormalities."

For further information about the dangers of fluoride, you can watch the video above about a farmer who sued an industrial company that injured and killed his cows with fluoride emissions. You can see how the animals' teeth were destroyed in the most painful of ways.



Let us know how you feel about our new look! Send us an email at:

jlconnections@aol.com

See us at:

<http://www.safetyconnections.com>

*In Loving
Memory of Jessica Lefirke*

In related news, the U.S. EPA has proposed to grant the petition of three environmental groups, and end the use of the insecticide sulfuryl fluoride.

The decision cited concerns about children's health and noted their current overexposure to fluoride through tap water.

Sources:

Yahoo News January 7, 2011

Environmental Working Group January 10, 2011

Journal of Hazardous Materials