



“Our mission is driven by our passion for people.”

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

Weekly Safety Tip

August 27, 2018

SCI Safety Tip: Fire Drills: Why, When, and How (Part 1)

By: Chris Kilbourne

Source: <https://ehsdailyadvisor.blr.com>

Date: Sep 21, 2010

Preparation is the key to effective response to workplace fires. Fire drills help prepare employees to respond quickly, calmly, and safely.

Fire drills play a very important role in workplace fire safety. Although OSHA does not require fire drills, it strongly recommends them.

In its “Evacuation Plans and Procedures eTool,” OSHA says: “It is a good idea to hold practice drills as often as necessary to keep employees prepared. Include outside resources such as fire and police departments when possible. After each drill, gather management and employees to evaluate the effectiveness of the drill. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of your plan and work to improve it.”

It's important to note that even though OSHA doesn't require drills, local fire codes and your insurance carrier may require you to hold periodic fire drills to ensure safe evacuation of employees.

Fire Drill Objectives

Fire drill objectives include:

- Giving employees an opportunity to practice emergency procedures in a simulated but safe environment
- Determining if employees understand and can carry out emergency duties
- Evaluating effectiveness of evacuation procedures and determining necessary changes or adjustments to procedures to improve performance
- Complying with requirements of the local fire code



SCI Safety Slogan

*Being safe is in
your own hands.*

James Lehrke- SCI



SCI OSHA News: U.S. Department of Labor Posts New Frequently Asked Questions and Videos on OSHA Standard for Controlling Silica in Construction

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

Date: August 22, 2018

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced today that new frequently asked questions (FAQs) and training videos on the Agency’s standard for respirable crystalline silica in construction are now available online.

Developed by OSHA in cooperation with industry and labor organizations, the [FAQs](#) provide employers and workers with guidance on the standard’s requirements. In addition, a series of six new [videos](#) instruct users on methods for controlling exposure to silica dust when performing common construction tasks, or using construction equipment. The videos cover topics including handheld power saws, jackhammers, drills, and grinders.

Visit OSHA’s [silica standard for construction](#) page for more information and resources on complying with the standard.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA’s role is to help ensure these conditions for America’s working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

SCI Security: A dose of reality for Wisconsin employers: Contractors not immune from opioid epidemic (Part 2)

Source: <https://dailyreporter.com>

By: [Bridgetower Media Newswires](#)

Date: August 17, 2018

I’m writing to you, as a Wisconsin employer, to deliver this dose of reality: Prescription-opioid abuse is affecting your business. A study out of Indiana found that four out of five employers have had to deal with addictions to opioid prescription painkillers, as well as opioid abuse, in their workplaces. Wisconsin and Indiana have an awful lot in common. If we conducted the same survey here, we should expect similar results, especially considering 80 percent of Worker’s Compensation claims in Wisconsin involve narcotic pain medications like Percocet, Vicodin, Oxycontin and Hydrocodone.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice is now working with medical professionals and teachers, but the opioid epidemic stretches far beyond the doctor’s office and classroom. We need Wisconsin employers, including construction contractors, to help. Together, we can make our workplaces safer and save lives.

But also, opioid abuse is affecting your bottom line. Prescription opioid abuse costs U.S. employers \$26 billion a year. Workplace insurers spend \$1.4 billion a year on narcotic painkillers. Wisconsin employers cannot afford to ignore this epidemic.

Even if all of your employees who are prescribed painkillers are using them appropriately and no one at your business is struggling with addiction, opiate abuse could still be reaching into your business through your employees’ relatives. Seventy percent of those who are addicted to prescription opioids didn’t get their first pills from a street dealer. They got them from a relative or friend.

That’s why I’m asking you to be a resource to your employees. Employer can give people a safe place to turn to for help or guidance, either for themselves or relatives, and thus can provide opportunities for early intervention.



Aurora Health Care® Quick Tips for Healthy Living

BACK TO SCHOOL **5** tips to help your child cope with stress
Dr. Jackie Kuzminski, Aurora Health Care

- ◆ Don't over-schedule your child; make time every day for "play"
- ◆ Make sleep a priority
- ◆ Listen to your child's frustrations
- ◆ Experiment with calming techniques; deep breaths & visualization
- ◆ Set a good example; control your own stress

Fun back-to-school facts

- 77.1 million people attend school in the United States, from nursery school through college — that's 25 percent of the population.
- 40 percent of adults age 18 to 24 are enrolled in college or graduate school.
- 13.4 percent of college students are 35 and older.
- Elementary and secondary schools in the U.S. employ 5.2 million full- and part-time educators.
- The U.S. has 4,788 colleges, universities and professional schools.
- Bookstores sell about \$1.6 billion worth of books and merchandise in August

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

What can you do as an employer?

- Inform your employees about the dangers of prescription-painkiller use by distributing materials like the posters, flyers and brochures found at www.DoseOfRealityWI.gov, which are provided at no cost to employers.
- Train supervisors to recognize the possible signs of drug impairment and know how to help.
- Consider adopting an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), if you don't have one already, that can offer employees up to three confidential counseling sessions at no cost on a wide range of subjects related to mental health.
- After first consulting your human-resources professionals or legal counsel, try to take stock of your company's drug policies and consider including prescription medications in those policies and in your drug-testing procedures. People who recover from drug abuse can and will be successful employees, but they need early intervention and the support of their employers and fellow workers.
- Also, consider encouraging your employees to take part in the safe and convenient drug-disposal program run by the DOJ. They can do this either by taking advantage of Drug Take Back Day, which will be held on October 27 this year, or by going to one of the nearly 400 permanent drug-disposal boxes that can be found throughout the state. At every Drug Take Back site, you can safely dispose of prescription and over-the-counter medications. To learn more or to find a Drug Take Back site near you, go to www.DoseOfRealityWI.gov/Find-A-Take-Back-Location/.

Many of the small-business owners I know treat their colleagues and employees like family, and would never want to see them fall victim to opioid abuse. There are simple steps you, and every citizen in this state, can take to end this epidemic. Help us spread the important message about the safe use of prescription drugs. Please go to www.DoseOfRealityWI.gov to learn how we can make our state safer and healthier.

Brad Schimel is the Wisconsin Attorney General.

We'd always like your feedback. Let us know what articles you'd like to see!

In Loving Memory... Jessica, Kristin and Nick



Save Tomorrow; Think Safety Today!