



On-Site Safety and Health Consultation Program

# WisCon Words of Wisdom

Volume 1 | Issue 4 | July 1, 2021

## WI COVID-19 by the Numbers

Total Positive Cases	612,732
Total Individuals Recovered	602,730
Total Deaths	7,306
Total Individuals Hospitalized	32,155

[DHS's Wisconsin Summary Data](#)

Numbers Updated 06/30/2021

## WI COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution by the Number of Doses

Allocated	6,809,515
Total Administered	5,570,218
Johnson & Johnson	228,977
Moderna	2,291,619
Pfizer	3,049,478

Check out the [latest data about Wisconsin's progress!](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

No Webinar This Week (Independence Day Observed)	7/5
<a href="#">COVID-19 Update &amp; How to Read a GHS Label</a>	7/12
<a href="#">OSHA's Emphasis Programs</a>	7/19
<a href="#">Guardrails for Fall Protection in Construction</a>	7/26

## Exposure to Noise Hazards REP

OSHA's Region 5 issued a new Regional Emphasis Program (REP) for Exposure to Noise Hazards in the Workplace that became effective June 1, 2021. This REP was issued with the intent "to encourage employers to take steps to identify, reduce, and eliminate hazards associated with exposure to high noise levels." Before Enforcement activities begin, the Region plans to perform outreach activities for 3 months, which may include letters to employers, training sessions, electronic correspondences, and news releases.

WisCon plans to schedule outreach training events in August and September on Noise and Hearing Protection. Check out our [website](#) for upcoming offerings.

OSHA's Region V (5) includes the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. A list of ongoing REPs can be found [here](#).

## COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS)

The [COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard](#) (ETS) is effective as of June 21st 2021. The standard applies to employees in health care and health care support industries with many exceptions. You must review the standard carefully to see if it applies to your business. The standard requires employers to develop and implement a site-specific [COVID-19 plan](#). The plan needs to cover a variety of policies for the workplace such as, PPE and facemask requirements, aerosol generating procedures, and anti-retaliation plans.

Additional requirements include [conducting a job hazard analysis](#), developing screening policies for COVID-19, keeping a [log of COVID-19 cases](#) in the workplace (regardless of origin), and conducting [employee training](#).

Please review the standard if you think it may apply to you. Attend our webinar on July 12th to ask questions and learn more about the ETS.

## Spotlight Corner—Natalie Jamandre

Natalie Jamandre is our WisCon Program Assistant. Natalie is one of the team members that you may interact with when you first request Wiscon services. She along with our Program Manager receive the initial phone and emailed requests. Natalie contacts clients to obtain additional request information and inputs that information into our database before forwarding on the request and visit information on to the assigned consultant. Natalie has been with the WisCon program for many years. When not at work, Natalie is active in her community and enjoys spending time with her grandchildren.

## Beware of fireworks #CelebrateSafely

As we approach Independence Day, many Wisconsin residents plan to use fireworks to celebrate. This is a good time to review fireworks safety to ensure everyone stays safe during this time.

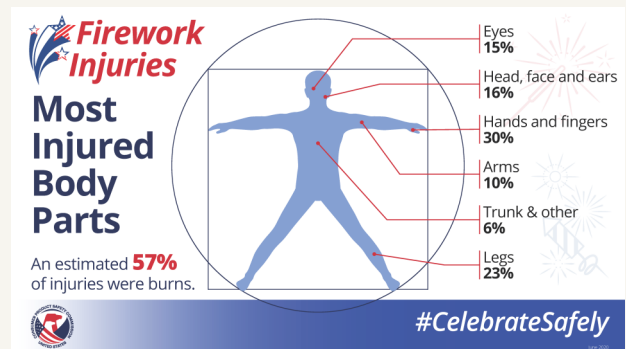
In [2019, an estimated 7,300 individuals were sent to the hospital due to fireworks related injuries between June 21st and July 21st.](#)

That averaged out to about 240 individuals visiting the emergency room each day. Of those injured, more than one third of them were children under the age of 15. Bottle rockets and sparklers, which are often considered to be safer options for children accounted for 400 and 900 hospital visits respectively.

While it is clear the fireworks are dangerous, what can we do to #CelebrateSafely?

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Avoid buying fireworks that are packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot enough to melt some metals.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.

- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.
- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.



## Heat Stress: Know the Signs of Heat-Related Illnesses

July is said to typically be Wisconsin's hottest month of the year. Although it may not feel like it yet, summer is here and the heat should soon follow. Now may be a good time to brush up on heat stress and perform some employee training on the heat-related illnesses.

Heat related illnesses include:

- **Heat Stroke** – occurs when the body becomes unable to control its temperature. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given. Symptoms of heat stroke include: confusion, loss of consciousness, hot dry skin, very high body temperature, and rapid heart rate.
- **Heat Exhaustion** – the body's response to an excessive loss of water and salt, usually through excessive sweating. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include: headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness, irritability, thirst, heavy sweating, elevated body temperature, fast heart rate, and decreased urine output.
- **Heat Cramps** – painful cramps resulting from low salt levels in muscles due to sweating. Symptoms of heat cramps include: muscle cramps, pain, or spasms, in the abdomen, arms, or legs.

As a note, heat cramps can also be a symptom of heat exhaustion

- **Heat Syncope** – a fainting episode or dizziness that can occur from prolonged standing or suddenly rising from a sitting or lying position. Dehydration and lack of acclimatization are factors that can contribute to heat syncope. Symptoms include: fainting for a short duration, dizziness, or light-headedness.
- **Heat Rash** – is a skin irritation caused by excessive sweating during hot, humid weather. Symptoms of heat rash include: clusters of red bumps or small blisters on the skin that often appear on the neck, upper chest, groin, under the breast, and in elbow creases.
- **Rhabdomyolysis** – a medical condition associated with heat stress and prolonged physical exertion that results in the rapid breakdown and death of muscle releasing electrolytes and large proteins into the bloodstream resulting in irregular heart rhythms, seizures, and kidney damage. Symptoms of rhabdomyolysis include: muscle pain, dark (tea or coke colored) urine, reduced urine output, weakness, or exercise intolerance. A person with rhabdomyolysis may also be asymptomatic.

Check out OSHA's [Preventing Heat Illness at Work](#) pamphlet!

Wisconsin On-Site Consultation (WisCon) Program

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