



WisCon Words of Wisdom

Volume 5 | Issue 5 | May 1, 2025

May Awareness Topics

May 1 – [National Heatstroke Prevention Day](#)

May 5-9 – [National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls](#)

May 11-17 – [National Police Week](#)

May 17-23 [National Safe Boating Week](#)

May 18-24 – [EMS Week](#)

All Month Long:

[Motorcycle Safety Month](#)

[National Electrical Safety Month](#)

[Clean Air Month](#)

[Trauma Awareness Month](#)

[National Water Safety Month](#)

[Healthy Vision Month](#)

[Mental Health Month](#)

[Better Hearing Month](#)

[Building Safety Month](#)

Upcoming Webinars

Stay tuned! No Webinars are currently scheduled.

We want to hear from you!

What content would you like to see in an upcoming newsletter? Let us know [here](#).

National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls – May 5-9, 2025

Don't Let Gravity Win! Falls from elevation tragically claimed 725 lives in 2023, with over 129,000 serious injuries in 2021-2022. Every one of these incidents was preventable. Join OSHA, the National Safety Council, and safety advocates nationwide in the **National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls, May 5-9, 2025**. This vital initiative encourages all employers to pause work and focus on fall prevention.

What is the National Safety Stand-Down?

Launched in 2012 and now an annual May event, the Stand-Down provides a dedicated time for employers across all industries to address fall hazards. Through training, inspections, and open discussions, it aims to raise awareness and prevent these devastating incidents. Millions of workers and tens of thousands of employers have participated since its start.

Safety for Everyone: All Industries Can Participate

Falls aren't limited to construction. Agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, and many other sectors face fall risks. Companies of all sizes, including those with fewer than 25 employees, can and should participate.

Simple Steps for a Meaningful Stand-Down:

Tailor your Stand-Down to your workplace needs. Consider these effective options:

- **Toolbox Talks:** Discuss specific fall hazards related to ladders, scaffolds, or roofs in your operations.
- **Safety Inspections:** Conduct worksite walk-throughs with employees to identify and address potential fall risks.
- **Rescue Planning:** Review and ensure understanding of emergency procedures in case of a fall.
- **Training Sessions:** Provide hands-on training on proper use of fall protection equipment and safe work practices at height.
- **Safety Videos:** Utilize visual resources to reinforce crucial safety messages and best practices.

Free Resources to Help You:

OSHA offers a wealth of [free materials](#) to support your Stand-Down, including handouts, posters, quizzes, fact sheets, stickers, and even t-shirts. Find these resources and a list of nationwide events on OSHA's website.

OSHA – A Year in Review

The “**OSHA Walkaround Rule**” was modified and became effective last May. The revised rule expanded who employees could designate as their representative(s) during OSHA’s physical inspection of a worksite. Representatives can be current employees or third parties who *by virtue of relevant knowledge, skills or experience with hazards or conditions of the workplace or similar workplaces or language or communication skills* are “reasonably necessary” for OSHA to conduct a thorough and efficient inspections.

www.osha.gov/worker-walkaround/final-rule/fag

OSHA expanded application of its “**Instance-by-Instance Citation Policy**” in April of last year. Citing instance-by-instance means *per machine, location, entry or employee*. For example, if five employees are not wearing eye protection in a work area where there are eye projectile hazards, OSHA can cite 1910.133(a)(1) five times, meaning five separate citations and financial penalties. OSHA could previously only apply this policy to select standards. OSHA can now cite instance-by-instance for *any* OSHA standard, the General Duty Clause or other than serious record-keeping standards. [Instance-by-Instance Citation Policy for Serious, Repeat, and Other-Than-Serious Violations | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

Citations have increased to \$16,550 per violation in 2025.

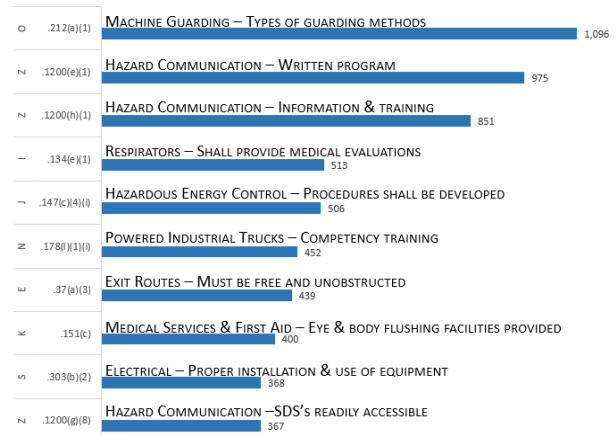
OSHA’s **Hazard Communication Standard** (1910.1200) was revised in July of last year to “realign” with GHS (Global Harmonization System). Most changes will directly impact chemical manufacturers and indirectly impact downstream users of chemicals. Downstream users: Your SDSs may change over the next several years. Look for and review updated SDSs to determine if new hazards have been identified, which triggers a retraining requirement. The labeling guidance for very small (3mL and 100mL) containers was modified. The topic of trade secrets was also modified. [Final Rule Modifying the HCS to Maintain Alignment with the GHS](#)

OSHA continues to focus on **PPE fit**. One size does not fit all. The construction standard, 1926.95, was modified in January of this year to require companies to ensure that PPE properly fits each affected employee. This requirement is already in-place for general industry employees. [Department of Labor finalizes rule on proper fit requirements for personal protective equipment in construction | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

Reporting: A reminder that fatalities must be reported to OSHA within 8 hours. In-patient hospitalizations, amputations or eye losses must be reported within 24 hours. Do not leave a message. If your local OSHA area office does not answer, call the 1-800 number or complete an online report. <https://www.osha.gov/report>

ITA (Injury Tracking Application: Electronic submission of OSHA 300 log information for 2024 (300, 300A and/or 301 forms) was due for submission on March 2. It is late, but not too late, to submit your data. Doing so may assist you in avoiding an OSHA inspection for not reporting. <https://www.osha.gov/injuryreporting>

OSHA has not yet published their “**Most Frequently Cited Serious Violations for General Industry**” 2024 data, although their 2023 data has been published:



OSHA continues to inspect based upon **Site Specific Targeting (SST)** of companies with elevated injury and illness rates, **non-reporters**, “**low rate**” companies and those who fall under **emphasis programs**. There are a variety of emphasis programs currently in-place: [Directives - NEP | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

Rulemaking for **heat** is on pause, although OSHA continues to encourage employers to establish heat prevention programs. www.osha.gov/heat

OSHA continues to encourage employers to adopt **Workplace Violence Programs** and a “zero tolerance policy” for bullying or violence within the workplace. [Workplace Violence - Overview | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

Temporary workers are at an increased risk of injury. The temp agency and the host employers have joint responsibility in training and keeping temporary employees safe. [Protecting Temporary Workers | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

Questions about any of these topics? We can help: Call 800-947-0553 or e-mail: Wiscon@slh.wisc.edu for confidential, expert assistance.

Wisconsin Safety and Health Consultation Program

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