

WEEKLY SAFETY TIP - 5/31/11 - THE DAILY DOZEN

One dozen – twelve – workers die each day on the job in the US. That's one person every other hour. None of those 12 people woke up in the morning and said to themselves, "I think that today, something so unsafe will happen that it will have fatal consequences for me and my family."

This past March a worker in Kentucky was struck by a falling tree. He did not survive.

Also in March, in Missouri, a person was overcome from exposure to Hydrogen Sulfide, became unconscious, fell 100 feet and died.

These and other stories are posted on the home page of OSHA.gov (linked here: www.OSHA.gov), as OSHA highlights some of the ways workers are killed on the job.

What can you do to not become a statistic?

For Employers: You have the responsibility to provide a safe work environment. How do you do that? A few suggestions to help you get started are: Review the activities at your worksite. Are there injuries and/or near misses? What Engineering Controls and Administrative Controls/Work Rules can you put into place and enforce to keep a safe worksite? The more you know and the more you are involved in safety, the better you can ensure a safe worksite.

For Employees: You have the responsibility to work safely. Here are a few suggestions for you: Review the Material Safety Data Sheets for the chemicals and materials you work with. Follow the work rules for safety. Decide to not take short cuts that might be unsafe. Inspect and ensure your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will do just what it is expected to do. Stretch before lifting and use safe lifting techniques to protect your back. Stay hydrated and take measures not to become over heated while working to reduce heat illnesses.

OSHA has a webpage dedicated to Injury and Illness Prevention Programs. With links to program resources and to state Injury and Illness Programs, it can be a good resource to help you with your safety programs. Here's a link to get you there:

<http://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/safetyhealth/index.html>>

You can also contact us at any time with questions regarding safety programs.

Do what you can to work safely today. Don't become one of the US Daily Dozen.