COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE HUMAN RESOURCES SAFETY DIVISION

Safety Newsletter

November 2019

A security assessment is performed to identify the current security posture of an information system or organization. The assessment provides recommendations for improvement, which allows the organization to a reach a security goal that mitigates risk, but also enables the organization to function.

The use of physical barriers, detection systems, personnel identification systems, and means of detecting the presence of unauthorized personnel are ways to secure vulnerable areas. For an industry that uses hazardous materials, the areas of vulnerability are more complex. Hazardous materials by definition, if mishandled, can create a disruption to business, the community, or to the environment with catastrophic results. A Security assessment for operations using hazardous materials must go beyond traditional security measures.

Board Policy C-27 directs the County HR Safety Division to conduct security assessment that evaluate a facility's strengths and vulnerabilities. The evaluation accomplishes two goals:

- It determines the degree to which security related protocols and controls are correctly implemented as intended and whether they are producing the desired level of efficiency.
- It determines the facility's inherent weaknesses which could be exploited; leading to crimes, non-compliances and increased threats within the workplace.

The Department Mangers or designees can request a security assessment through County Safety Division or designate Safety Coordinators to conduct security assessment at worksite locations.

RIVCO 1HR safety division

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SECURITY ASSESSMENTS

County of Riverside Human Resources
Safety Division
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What to expect during the security assessment an overview the following areas-

Administrative areas evaluated consist of:

- Have the employees been trained to recognize warning signs of potential hazards?
- Are employees training to report violent incidents or threats?
- Are the employees trained in emergency response?
- Have the employees attended employee workplace violence training?
- Is the department familiar with workplace violence prevention Board Policy C-27, and provide training to it's staff on workplace violence prevention?

PROCEDURES

- Is public access to the building controlled? Are there timers to lock public access doors?
- Are there floor plans showing exits visible to staff but not outsiders?
- Can employee call 9-1-1 from their office telephones?
- Are employees notified of past violent acts by clients, patients, etc?
- Are there additional/specific safety measures or standard operating procedures for field employees or offsite employees?

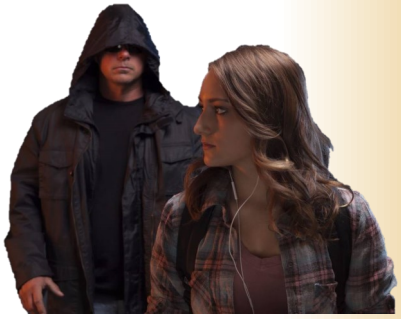
FACILITY EXTERIORS

- Does the parking lot have adequate lighting?
- Is there someone responsible for building security?
- Are security personnel trained and authorized to respond?

- Are security personnel accessible to employees in a timely manner?
- Is the building entrance free from obstruction (trees, bushes, etc) and visible from the street?

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Being aware of your surroundings to help ensure the safety of patients, visitors and staff
- Reporting situations to appropriate persons
- Following all policies and procedures



Encourage employees to utilize situational awareness involves being aware of your immediate surroundings and the impact of your or other's actions as it relates to the well-being of yourself and those around you. Remember Safety starts with you.

NEW CAL-OSHA REGULATIONS

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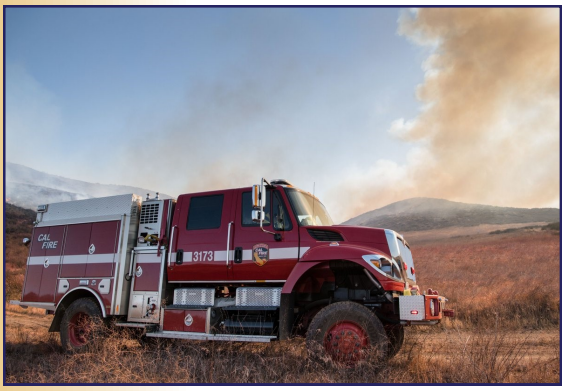

WILDFIRE SMOKE EXPOSURE

In response to the dangerous levels of air quality last fall following the wildfires in Northern and Southern California, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) has implemented the proposed regulation addressing hazardous wildfire smoke exposure to protect outdoor workers from unhealthy air quality.

This regulation effects mostly County of Riverside employees who work outdoors.

Safety can provide awareness training to your department upon request.

For more information go to:
https://www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/documents/Protection-from-Wildfire-Smoke-Emergency-apprvdtxt.pdf

AIR QUALITY INDEX

Have you ever had a bad air day? Know someone who has asthma or allergies and has trouble breathing from time to time and you wanted to check the air quality? With the conditions the way they are, allergy season is always upon us. The Air quality index is one way for you to prepare for or prevent any allergy or asthma attacks.

How Does the AQI Work?

Think of the AQI as a yardstick that runs from 0 to 500. The higher the AQI value, the greater the level of air pollution and the greater the health concern. For example, an AQI value of 50 represents good air quality with little potential to affect public health, while an AQI value over 300 represents hazardous air quality. An AQI value of 100 generally corresponds to the national air quality standard for the pollutant, which is the level EPA has set to protect public health. AQI values below 100 are generally thought of as satisfactory. When AQI values are above 100, air quality is considered to be unhealthy-at first for certain sensitive groups of people, then for everyone as AQI values get higher.

Air Quality Index (AQI) Values	Levels of Health Concern	Colors
When the AQI is in this range:	*..air quality conditions are:*	*...as symbolized by this color:*
0 to 50	Good	Green
51 to 100	Moderate	Yellow
101 to 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Orange
151 to 200	Unhealthy	Red
201 to 300	Very Unhealthy	Purple
301 to 500	Hazardous	Maroon

CHEMICAL STORAGE

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Does your office or department store chemicals? If so, be aware that not all chemicals are created equally. Due to the multitude of variables involved, it is important to know how and where to store your chemicals. To protect employees from the potential dangers of chemicals, OSHA and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) utilizes a color code and placard system to assist in the proper and safe storage of chemicals. The table below provides an overview of the color codes and their respective storage methods.

Color Code	Type of Hazard	Storage Method	Logo	Examples
RED	**Flammable-**If flammable cabinets are stored in a shed or other enclosure, an additional placard should be affixed outside the building as a means of alerting firemen of its presence.	Flammable Cabinet or flammable storage area		
BLUE	**Health Hazards/ Toxins**	Designate as poison area or keep separate from other chemicals		
YELLOW	**Reactive /Oxidizers**	Store corrosives in this group in chemical resistant secondary containers or in corrosive-proof cabinets. Store away from organic material, flammables or other incompatible materials		
WHITE	**Corrosives and Contact Hazards-** *Under the NFPA system, the white area is used to denote special hazards (ex. Reaction to water, oxidizer, asphyxiant, etc).*	Store in chemical resistant catch trays or corrosive cabinet. Store acids separate from bases.		
GREEN, GREY or ORANGE	**General Storage**	General storage can be store on higher shelves. Store according to nature of chemical		

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COOKING A DEEP FRIED TURKEY… & THE ACCIDENTS THAT FOLLOW

Simple Insights from our friends at StateFarm™

Let's be honest…..you've always wanted to try to fry a turkey at Thanksgiving since your neighbor did it a few years ago, but the resulting fireball and visit from Cal Fire's Riverside Unit has given you years of pause. Well it's completely understandable, because according to Insurance Market Source "an estimated $15 million in property damage, 60 injuries and 5 deaths" occur each year in the United States because of accidents involving fried turkeys.

If you've ever wondered how to fry your Thanksgiving turkey without a trip to Riverside Community Hospital or maxing your homeowner's policy limits, here's a few tips to help you out.

- Keep outdoor fryers off decks, out of garages and a safe distance away from trees and other structures.
- Make sure the turkey is thawed and dry before cooking. Ice or water that mixes into the hot oil can cause flare-ups.
- Watch the weather. Never operate a fryer outdoors in the rain or snow.
- Place the fryer on a level surface, and avoid moving it once it's in use.
- Leave 2 feet between the tank and the burner when using a propane-powered fryer.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions to avoid overfilling. Oil can ignite when it makes contact with the burner.
- Choose a smaller turkey for frying. A bird that's 8 to 10 pounds is best; pass on turkeys over 12 pounds.
- Never leave fryers unattended.
- Purchase a fryer with temperature controls, and watch the oil temperature carefully. Cooking oil that is heated beyond its smoke point can catch fire. If you notice the oil is smoking, turn the fryer off.
- Turn off the burner before lowering the turkey into the oil. Once the turkey is submerged, turn the burner on.
- Wear goggles to shield your eyes, use oven mitts to protect your hands and arms and keep an "ABC" or grease-rated fire extinguisher close by. Do not to use water or a garden hose on a fire related to Turkey Fryers.
- Skip the stuffing when frying turkey, and avoid water-based marinades.
- Keep children and pets away from the fryer at all times.
- Once finished, carefully remove the pot from the burner, place it on a level surface and cover to let the oil cool overnight before disposing.
- Opt for an oil-less fryer. This uses infrared heat, rather than oil, to cook the turkey.

VS.

TIME TO FALL BACK!

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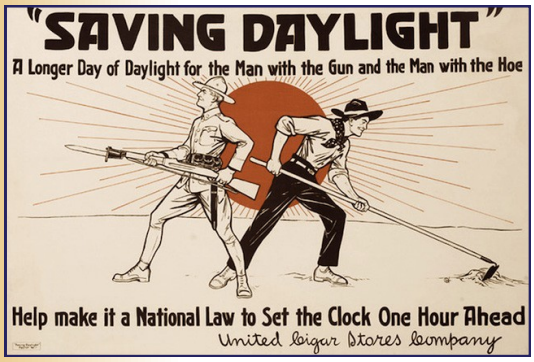
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 3RD @ 2AM



During World War I, the daylight-saving system was adopted to conserve fuel needed to produce electric power for the war. With the uniform Time Act, Congress in 1966 established a system of uniform daylight-saving time throughout the United States and its possessions. States in which the legislatures voted to stay on standard time were exempted. Arizona and portions of Indiana have opted out of Daylight Saving Time. –Safety Toolbox

In the modern era, let's face it, our first thought is, "I GET AN EXTRA HOUR OF SLEEP!" But just because our physical clocks change, doesn't mean that our internal clocks are so easily adjustable. A study by Carnegie Mellon University found that pedestrians are 186% more likely to be fatally injured between October and November per mile walked.

The National Road Safety Foundation (NRSF) has done studies proving that auto accidents increase after the clocks fall back an hour. Besides the lack of visibility, the NRSF notes that commuting in the dark can also make drivers drowsier than usual. According to some health studies, changes in waking time coupled with the earlier onset of darkness throws off our internal clocks. This increases driving risks, primarily because in our 24/7 society, we have a fundamental problem of already being sleep deprived.

As we fall back and head towards winter, follow these tips to reduce accidents after the clocks change: (InsuranceHotline.com)

- Keep your regular sleep schedule. Go to bed at the same time you normally would so you can benefit from that extra hour of sleep.
- Before you pull out of the driveway, clean your headlights, brake lights, and signal lights.
- Give yourself plenty of time to get where you want to go.
- Approach all crosswalks, intersections and transit stops with caution, as it will be harder to see pedestrians and cyclists.
- Heed the speed limits and adjust your speed accordingly to the weather conditions.
- Maintain a safe following distance so you're prepared to react under any situation.
- Studies suggest that it takes people who work traditional hours several days to fully readjust their sleep schedule after the time change. While it may seem a welcome gift to get an extra hour of sleep as opposed to losing an hour in the spring, there is a physiological consequence to changing our clocks. Don't be surprised if you feel a bit sluggish during the first week or so of November.

WHEN YOU SPRING FORWARD OR FALL BACK...

Check and replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms

SAFETY FIRST RIVCO HR