

TOGETHER WITH TOSHA

newsletter

May 2024



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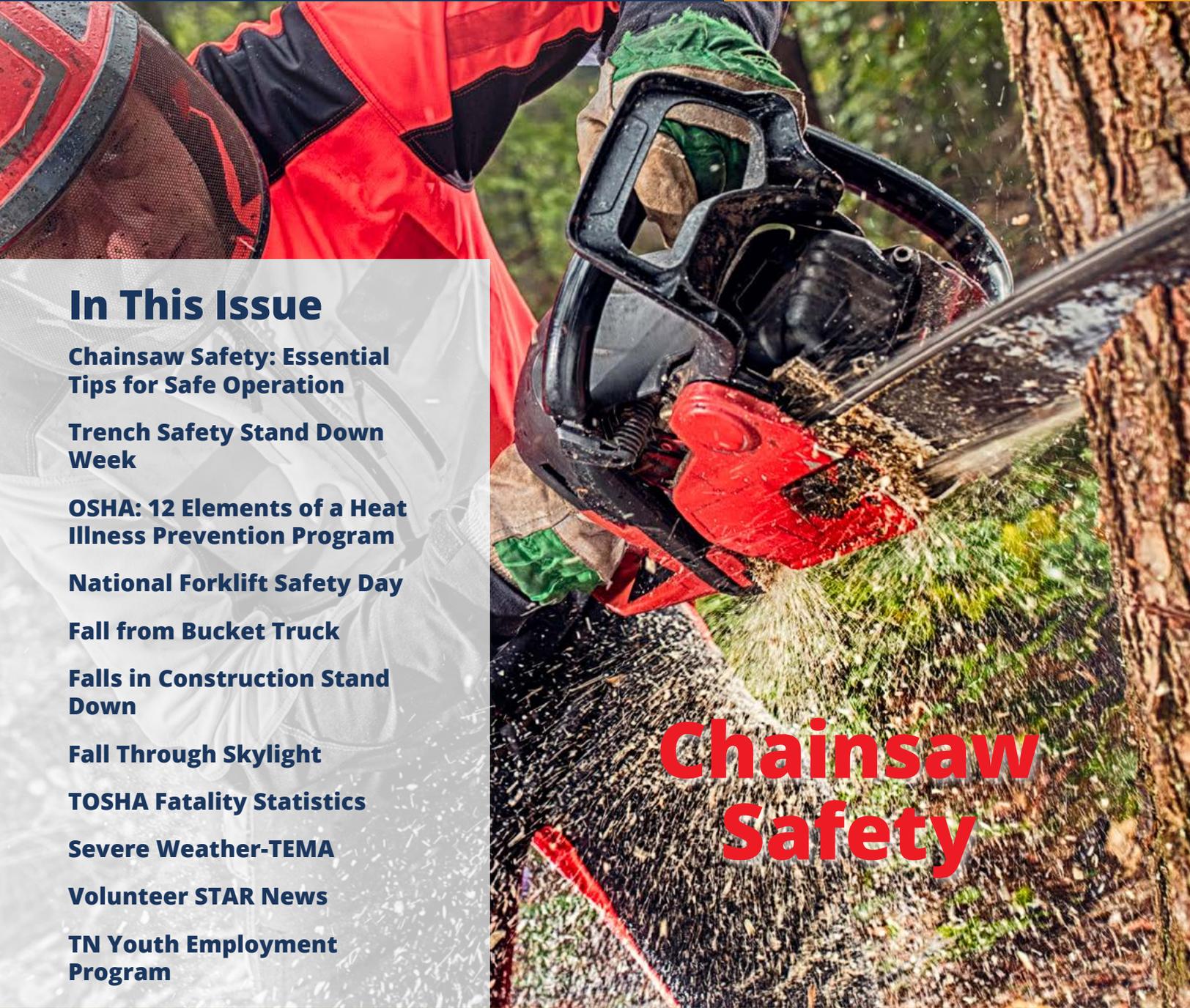
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Chainsaw Safety



Chainsaw Safety: Essential Tips for Safe Operation



Chainsaws are powerful tools commonly used in forestry, landscaping, and construction, but they also pose significant risks if not handled with caution. Every year, thousands of people suffer chainsaw-related injuries, many of which could have been prevented with proper safety measures. Whether you're a seasoned professional or a DIY enthusiast, understanding and practicing chainsaw safety is paramount. Here are some essential tips to keep you safe while operating a chainsaw:

- 1. Read the Manual:** Before using a chainsaw, thoroughly read the manufacturer's manual. Familiarize yourself with the specific safety instructions and operating procedures for your model.
- 2. Wear Protective Gear:** Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when operating a chainsaw. This includes a helmet with a face shield or safety goggles, hearing protection, gloves, chainsaw chaps, and sturdy boots with nonslip soles.
- 3. Inspect the Chainsaw:** Before starting the chainsaw, inspect it for any signs of damage or wear. Check the chain tension, sharpness of the chain teeth, and ensure all safety features are working correctly, such as the chain brake and throttle lockout.
- 4. Choose the Right Tool for the Job:** Select the appropriate chainsaw for the task at hand. Using a chainsaw with the correct size and power for the job will enhance efficiency and reduce the risk of accidents.
- 5. Plan Your Work:** Before cutting, assess the work area for potential hazards such as obstacles, overhead branches, and uneven terrain. Plan your cutting sequence to ensure safe and efficient operation.

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Chainsaw Safety: Essential Tips for Safe Operation

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- 6. Maintain a Secure Grip:** Always maintain a firm grip on the chainsaw with both hands, keeping your thumbs wrapped around the handles. Avoid operating the chainsaw with one hand or in awkward positions.
- 7. Stand in a Stable Position:** Position yourself in a stable and balanced stance with your feet shoulder-width apart. Keep your body to the side of the cutting path to avoid being struck by debris or kickback.
- 8. Watch for Kickback:** Be vigilant for kickback, a sudden and uncontrollable upward or backward motion of the chainsaw. To minimize the risk of kickback, never let the nose of the guide bar contact the wood while the chain is moving.
- 9. Maintain Distance:** Keep bystanders and other workers at a safe distance while operating a chainsaw. Maintain a clear area around you to prevent accidental contact or injury.
- 10. Know Emergency Procedures:** In the event of an accident or injury, know how to respond quickly and effectively. Carry a first-aid kit and be prepared to administer first aid or seek medical assistance if needed.

By following these essential chainsaw safety tips, you can minimize the risk of accidents and injuries while operating this powerful tool. Remember, safety should always be your top priority when working with chainsaws. 🎯

OSHA Fact Sheet

JUNE IS TRENCH SAFETY MONTH!

Safety Training and Protective Systems Save Lives



Trench Safety Stand Down Week | June 17–21, 2024

Make plans for your company to participate in the 2024 NUCA Trench Safety Stand Down (TSSD) Week. Being a part of our popular 8th annual TSSD Week will help educate your employees on trenching hazards at the jobsite.

OSHA's National Emphasis Program on Trenching and Excavation is a high agency priority. NUCA and OSHA have teamed up for the annual trench safety program, sponsored this year by NUCA national partners United Rentals and Sunstate Equipment Co. More than 25,800 employees on 2,487 jobsites from 455 companies participated in the 2023 TSSD.

Every company or organization that holds a TSSD will receive a certificate of participation, as well as hard-hat stickers for every employee who participated. Recognition will also be given in NUCA publications. Please plan for your company to be a part of this vital industry safety event this year.

2024 TSSD Sponsored By



Alex E. Paris Contracting
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United Rentals
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Also Sponsored by NUCA's Safety Ambassadors Club

For more details and TSSD materials: nuca.com/tssd #TSSD24 #TrenchSafetyMonth

12 Elements of a Heat Illness Prevention Program

A heat illness prevention program is an ongoing system that plans for and ensures workplace heat safety. Employers conduct routine workplace inspections to identify heat hazards, control the identified hazards, and monitor and evaluate the hazard controls to verify they are effective. Use the following elements in your heat illness prevention program.

Create a Plan and Provide Training



1. Have a Heat Plan

Develop a plan that includes monitoring, acclimatization, work/rest schedules, a buddy system, and protocols for emergencies and first aid. Communicate the plan to supervisors and workers.



2. Designate Someone to Oversee the Heat Safety Program

Identify someone trained or to-be-trained in heat hazards, heat illness symptoms, and heat controls. If possible, select or train multiple people to always have a designated Heat Safety Representative on-site. The Heat Safety Representative can develop, implement, and manage the program.



3. Provide Training on Heat Illness

Provide training on a regular basis (at least annually) for all workers on heat illness risks, symptoms, and response procedures, as well as prevention methods. Train workers in a language and format they understand.

Nearly 3 out of 4 fatalities from heat illness occur in the first week of work.



Plan Work Schedules



4. Acclimatize Workers

Acclimatization is a physical change that allows the body to build tolerance to working in the heat. Acclimatize new and returning workers by gradually increasing workload and exposure by following the 20% Rule.

Allow new or returning workers to gradually increase duration of exposure and take more frequent breaks during the first week of work as they build a tolerance to working in the heat. Begin with a 20% exposure on the first day, increasing by no more than 20% each following day. Full acclimatization may take up to 14 days or longer.



5. Modify Work Schedules to Reduce Heat Exposure

There are several ways employers can modify schedules to address heat risks:

- Reschedule non-essential outdoor or indoor work for days with a reduced heat index.
- Shift physically demanding work to cooler times of the day.
- Rotate workers, add extra workers, or split shifts to reduce exposure to heat and ease workloads.
- Stop work if needed due to heat risk.

Employers should be aware that early morning start times may increase fatigue if schedules shift significantly. Monitor accordingly, as morning temperatures may also have higher humidity levels.



6. Allow Frequent Rest Breaks

Breaks should be long enough to allow workers enough time to recover from heat given the temperature, humidity, activity level, and other conditions.

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Set Controls and Monitor On-Site Activity



7. Identify Heat Hazards

Hazard identification is recognizing heat hazards and the risk of heat illness due to high temperature, humidity, sun and other thermal exposures, work demands, clothing or PPE, and personal risk factors. Use this [checklist](#) to identify potential sources of heat hazards.



8. Check the Temperature in the Space Before Work

Use apps and tools to track heat hazards.

- For outdoor work, use the OSHA-NIOSH Heat Safety Tool App ([Apple Store](#) or [Google Play](#)) to plan activities based on how hot it feels throughout the day. Consult the National Weather Service Heat Index and watch for high temperature weather alerts.
- For indoor work, use a combination thermometer and hygrometer to identify the heat index in the work area. Post signage of actions to take based on the work area's heat index.



9. Monitor for Heat Illness Symptoms

Establish a monitoring system for the signs and symptoms of heat illness. Also train workers to monitor each other. A buddy system can help supervisors watch for signs of heat illness.

More robust heat illness prevention programs establish a medical monitoring program. This should include medical evaluations before a worker starts (pre-placement) and periodic medical evaluations. The program should also include a plan for monitoring worker heat strain (e.g., core temperature, hydration, pulse, and/or blood pressure) on the job.



10. Designate a Break Area and Encourage Hydration

Remember: Water, Rest, Shade. Designate a shady or cool area for breaks and provide cool drinking water. Portable tents and shelters can be a solution for areas without natural shade. Ensure drinking water is available and accessible and encourage workers to drink 1 liter per hour (about 1 cup every 15 to 20 minutes). Remind workers to not drink more than 48 oz (1½ quarts) per hour! Drinking too much water or other fluids (sports drinks, energy drinks, etc.) can cause a medical emergency because the concentration of salt in the blood becomes too low.



11. Have Workers Dress for the Heat

Workers should wear a hat outside and loose-fitting, breathable clothing where possible.



12. Be prepared for an Emergency

Have an emergency plan in place for each worksite and communicate it to supervisors and workers.

This should include:

- What to do when someone is showing signs of heat illness.
- How to contact emergency services.
- How long it takes for emergency services to arrive.
- Appropriate first-aid measures until medical help arrives.

Workers have the right to working conditions that do not pose a risk of serious harm, to receive information and training about workplace hazards and how to prevent them, and to file a complaint with OSHA to inspect their workplace without fear of retaliation.

For more information about workers' rights, visit www.osha.gov/workers

To file a complaint, visit www.osha.gov/workers/file-complaint or call 800-321-OSHA (6742)

For more information on this and other issues affecting workers or heat stress, visit:
www.osha.gov/heat | www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/heatstress

National Forklift Safety Day is June 11

There are many types of powered industrial trucks. Each type presents different operating hazards. For example, a sit-down, counterbalanced high-lift rider truck is more likely than a motorized hand truck to be involved in a falling load accident because the sit-down rider truck can lift a load much higher than a hand truck. Workplace type and conditions are also factors in hazards commonly associated with powered industrial trucks. For example, retail establishments often face greater challenges than other worksites in maintaining pedestrian safety. Beyond that, many workers can also be injured when (1) lift trucks are inadvertently driven off loading docks; (2) lifts fall between docks and an unsecured trailer; (3) they are struck by a lift truck; or (4) they fall while on elevated pallets and tines.

Determining the best way to protect workers from injury largely depends on the type of truck operated and the worksite where it is being used. Employers must ensure that each powered industrial truck operator is competent to operate a powered industrial truck safely, as demonstrated by the successful completion of the training and evaluation specified in [29 CFR 1910.178\(l\)\(1\)](#).

Powered industrial trucks, including forklifts, pallet jacks, and order pickers, are essential tools in warehouses, manufacturing facilities, and construction sites. However, their improper use can lead to accidents, injuries, and even fatalities.

To ensure a safe work environment, it's

NATIONAL
**FORKLIFT
SAFETY DAY**



crucial for operators to adhere to strict safety protocols when operating powered industrial trucks. Here are some key areas to promote safety:

Training, Pre-Operation Inspection, Proper Load Handling, Observe Speed Limits, Use Caution on Ramps and Inclines, Keep Clear Visibility, Be Mindful of Pedestrians, Avoid Overloading, Follow Traffic Rules, Report and Address Hazards

By always following these guidelines and prioritizing safety, operators can help minimize the risk of accidents and injuries associated with powered industrial trucks.

Remember, safety is everyone's responsibility in the workplace. ☺





Fall from Bucket Truck

Inspection #1676283—Tanksley Tree Service LLC

A 52-year-old male employee was thrown from a bucket truck when a tree he cut fell and uprooted another, which fell and hit the bucket, knocking it completely off the boom of the truck. Employees were in the process of cleaning up storm damage at a residential site.

The home was on a hill, surrounded by woods on all sides. Most of the fallen debris and trees had come from the sloped bank behind the home. Interviews indicated the slope of this hill was approximately 60 degrees. One large oak tree had partially broken off from its base and fallen onto the roof of the home and was lodged against a walnut tree close to the back of the home. The victim, who was considered a Lead Man, cleared/trimmed as many limbs off as he could reach from the bucket of a bucket truck. Though interviews with employees seemed to indicate the fallen tree was lodged in the fork of another tree, a photo provided by the employer taken before the start of the work showed the fallen tree was forked and that it had fallen such that the fork got lodged against another tree. The next cut needed to be performed near the fork of the tree and could not be reached from the current position of the bucket truck.

The employees then relocated the bucket truck to the back patio/driveway of the home. The victim went up in the bucket and began trimming and removing sections of the forked limbs and lowered them down with a rope, leaving approximately 25 feet of the base to be removed. Interviews indicated that the victim was not wearing a harness, safety glasses, or a hard hat while elevated in the bucket of the bucket truck. The victim then took the end of a 200-foot nylon rope and secured it to the remaining section of the tree. He then came down and instructed two employees to run the rest of this rope through a series of other trees and tie off their end to a skid steer.

The employees did as instructed and, according to the employee who actually ran the rope, a different rope was secured to the fallen tree above the break and tied to a nearby tree to keep the falling tree from sliding down the slope. The 200-foot rope was run through the fork of another live tree down to a rolling block secured by wrapping it two to three times near the base of another nearby live tree and then through a series of trees, and the other end was tied to the skid steer parked farther down the driveway. One of the trees that the rope was run around was a dead hickory tree.

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Fall from Bucket Truck

Inspection #1676283—Tanksley Tree Service LLC

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This employee stated during his interview that he had informed the victim of the dead tree and was told not to worry about it. The intent was to use the skid steer and rope to slowly lower the remaining section of the tree down, once it was cut. Once all of this was completed, the victim went back up in the bucket, approximately 30-40 feet, and began cutting the tree near where it was laying against the other tree.

An employee stated that as soon as the victim started cutting, he heard the tree pulling away and yelled, "It's coming down." Employees stated that shortly after the tree hit the ground, they heard a cracking sound and the dead tree came crashing down, striking the bucket. Employees claimed that the tension placed on the rope must have caused the dead tree to fall. Most of the bucket was sheared off, sending it and the victim to the concrete patio below. It was thought that the tree hit the victim first, as he hit the ground headfirst just before the bucket did.

Based on interviews, it appeared the employer had no means in place to evaluate site conditions and/or had developed any sort of plans for the safe trimming and/or removal of trees. It was also determined that necessary PPE, such as hard hats, safety glasses, and fall harnesses, were not regularly worn nor was the employer effectively enforcing the use of such PPE.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1

Type of Violation: Serious \$4,000

TCA 50-3-105(1): The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment that were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees:

In that an employee was struck by a dead hickory tree when the tension on the rope used to secure the tree being cut caused the hickory tree to break and fall, striking the employee.

Citation 1 Item 2

Type of Violation: Serious \$4,000

29 CFR 1910.67(c)(2)(v): A personal fall arrest or travel restraint system that meets the requirements of Subpart I of this part was not worn or attached to the boom or basket when working from an aerial lift:

In that the employer did not ensure that employees wore fall protection equipment when performing tree-trimming operations from the elevated buckets of bucket trucks.

Citation 1 Item 3

Type of Violation: Serious \$800

29 CFR 1910.132(a): Protective equipment, including personal protective equipment for eyes, face, head, and extremities, protective clothing, respiratory devices, and protective shields and barriers were not provided, used, and/or maintained:

In that the employer did not ensure that leg protection was used to protect employees from cuts and lacerations while using chainsaws.

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Fall from Bucket Truck

Inspection #1676283—Tanksley Tree Service LLC

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Citation 1 Item 4 Type of Violation: Serious \$500

29 CFR 1910.133(a)(1): The employer did not ensure that each affected employee used appropriate eye or face protection when exposed to eye or face hazards from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially injurious light radiation:

In that on 6/10/2023, the victim was not wearing safety glasses when performing tree-trimming operations using saws.

Citation 1 Item 5 Type of Violation: Serious \$800

29 CFR 1910.135(a)(1): The employer did not ensure that each affected employee wore a protective helmet when working in areas where there is a potential for injury to the head from falling objects:

In that the employer did not ensure that employees wore hard hats when exposed to potential head injuries from falling trees, limbs, and other debris while performing tree-trimming operations.



Citation 1 Item 6 Type of Violation: Serious \$800

29 CFR 1910.151(b): 29 CFR 1910.151(b): In the absence of an infirmary, clinic, or hospital in near proximity to the workplace which is used for the treatment of all injured employees, a person or persons were not adequately trained to render first aid and adequate first-aid supplies were not readily available.

In that the employer did not ensure employees had access to first aid where medical treatment was necessary but not immediately available:

- First-aid-trained personnel were not provided in locations where emergency care was not readily available within three to four minutes of the worksite
- No first-aid kits were provided for employees out in the field

Citation 2 Item 1 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious \$0

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.03(27)(a): The log of all work-related injuries and illnesses (OSHA Form 300) and/or the summary of work-related injuries and illnesses (OSHA Form 300A) and/or the injury and illness incident report (OSHA Form 301) or equivalent forms were not maintained by the establishment:

In that the employer was not maintaining OSHA Form 300 logs or OSHA Form 300-A summaries.

Citation 2 Item 2 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious \$0

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.03(27)(b)2: An incident report (OSHA Form 301 or equivalent) for each work-related injury or illness was not completed in detail as required by the rule.

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Fall from Bucket Truck

Inspection #1676283—Tanksley Tree Service LLC
continued from page 10

In that the employer's first reports of work injury or illness did not consistently contain all the necessary details, such as type of treatment, time of injury, a description of the injury to include what the employee was doing, the body part(s) affected and object or substance that directly harmed the employee, and the address where the injury occurred if not on company premises.

Citation 2 Item 3 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious \$1,000

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.05(1)(a)1: TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.05(1)(a)1: Within eight (8) hours after the death of any employee as a result of a work-related incident, the employer did not report the fatality to the TOSHA Division of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

In that the employer did not report the death of an employee that occurred at approximately 2:30 p.m. on June 10, 2023, to TOSHA until 9 a.m. June 12, 2023.

Citation 2 Item 4 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious \$100

29 CFR 1910.132(d)(2): 29 CFR 1910.132(d)(2): The employer did not verify that the required workplace hazard assessment had been performed through a written certification that identified the workplace evaluated; the person certifying that the evaluation had been performed; the date(s) of the hazard assessment; and which identifies the document as a certification of hazard assessment:

In that the employer did not certify its PPE hazard assessment. Ⓞ

Falls in Construction Stand Down May 6-10, 2024

Thank you for participating in OSHA's 2024 Fall Prevention Campaign

Falls continue to be the leading cause of death in Construction. Employers must set up the workplace to prevent employees from falling off overhead platforms, elevated workstations or into holes in the floor and walls. OSHA requires that fall protection be provided at elevations of 4 feet in general industry workplaces, 6 feet in the construction industry. OSHA requires personal fall arrest systems to be inspected for wear, damage, and other deterioration prior to each use. In addition, OSHA requires that fall protection be provided when working over dangerous equipment and machinery, regardless of the fall distance. Ⓞ

- **PLAN** ahead to get the job done safely
- **PROVIDE** the right equipment
- **TRAIN** everyone to use the equipment safely

Together with TOSHA Quiz *Answer on page 16*

Falls:

According to OSHA's Construction Industry Fall Protection standard, found in 29 CFR 1926 Subpart M, how often must personal fall arrest systems (PFAS) be inspected?

- A** Regularly by a competent person.
- B** Before the first issue and every 6 months thereafter.
- C** Based on the manufacturer's recommendations.
- D** Before each use.

Fall Through Skylight

Inspection #1641715—Tennessee Valley Railroad

A 58-year-old male employee fell through a skylight approximately 37 feet to the concrete ground below and was fatally injured. The victim was the General Manager of the site. The incident occurred in the Soule Shop building that was approximately 13,500 square feet and contained skylights on the roof that were approximately 9 feet long and 3 feet wide. The shop was used to maintain rail cars.

On the day of the incident, the victim was attempting to fix leaks in the roof of the shop. An employee stated that he received a call from the victim asking him to run the aerial lift while he (the victim) fixed the roof. The employee drove the aerial lift to the north side of the shop and elevated the lift to access the roof. The employee stated that he stayed in the basket of the aerial lift while the victim was on the roof. The victim caulked the edge of the roof from the center point to the east side. This took him approximately 30 minutes. The employee in the basket stated that the victim mentioned since he was already up on the roof, he was going to walk around to see if there were any other holes. The victim found an additional hole south of where he was originally caulking. The victim started walking forward toward the aerial lift basket, located on the north side of the building, to retrieve more caulk. The employee in the basket stated he was reaching down to get the caulk out of the tool bag and when he looked up, he saw the victim in the skylight up to his chest trying to grab something to hold onto. The victim then fell all the way through the northeasternmost skylight approximately 37 feet to the concrete ground below.



Another employee stated that he saw the employee in the aerial lift basket and the victim on the roof as he entered the shop. The employee went to the break room, and as he was coming out of the break room, he saw the victim's feet hanging from the skylight and then fall. Neither the employee (aerial lift operator) nor the victim had fall protection on at any point during this job. When asked, the employees stated that there were no anchor points on the roof that could have been used. There were multiple fall protection harnesses and lanyards observed on-site.

In conclusion, the victim was trying to repair the roof because it was leaking. The victim did not have fall protection on, and the skylights on the roof were not guarded. The victim fell through the northeasternmost skylight approximately 37 feet and sustained fatal injuries on site. The employer did not ensure that employees were protected while operating an aerial lift, working at heights 6 feet or greater, and that the skylights were properly guarded/covered.

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Fall Through Skylight

Inspection #1641715—Tennessee Valley Railroad

continued from page 12

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1 Type:

Serious Proposed Penalty: \$1,200

29 CFR 1926.453(b)(2)(v): A body belt was not worn and/or a lanyard was not attached to the boom or basket when working from an aerial lift: Note: As of January 1, 1998, Subpart M of this part (1926.502(d)) provides that body belts are not acceptable as part of a personal fall arrest system. The use of a body belt in a tethering system or in a restraint system is acceptable and is regulated.

In that two employees did not wear fall protection while ascending in a Snorkel TB-A42RDZ aerial lift to access the roof, exposing the employees to an ejection hazard, and falling approximately 37 feet to the concrete/gravel ground below.

Citation 1 Item 2 Type:

Serious Proposed Penalty: \$5,400

29 CFR 1926.501(b)(1): Each employee on a walking/working surface with an unprotected side or edge that was 6 feet (1.8 meters) or more above a lower level was not protected from falling using guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems.

In that an employee was working from an approximate 37-foot-high roof fixing roof leaks without fall protection that resulted in a fatality.



Citation 1 Item 3 Type:

Serious Proposed Penalty: \$5,400

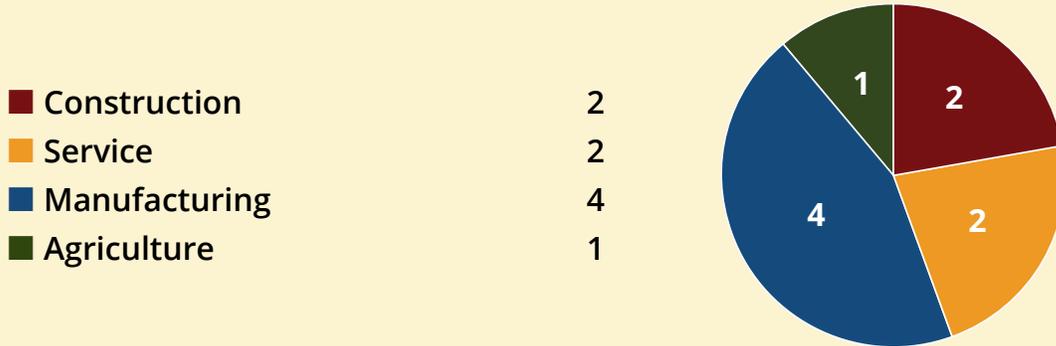
29 CFR 1926.501(b)(4)(i): Each employee on walking/working surfaces was not protected from falling through holes (including skylights), more than 6 feet (1.8 meters) above lower levels, by personal fall arrest systems, covers, or guardrail systems erected around such holes.

In that the fiberglass skylights on the roof were not guarded before an employee fixed the roof leaks, exposing an employee to an approximate 37-foot fall hazard that resulted in a fatality. ☹

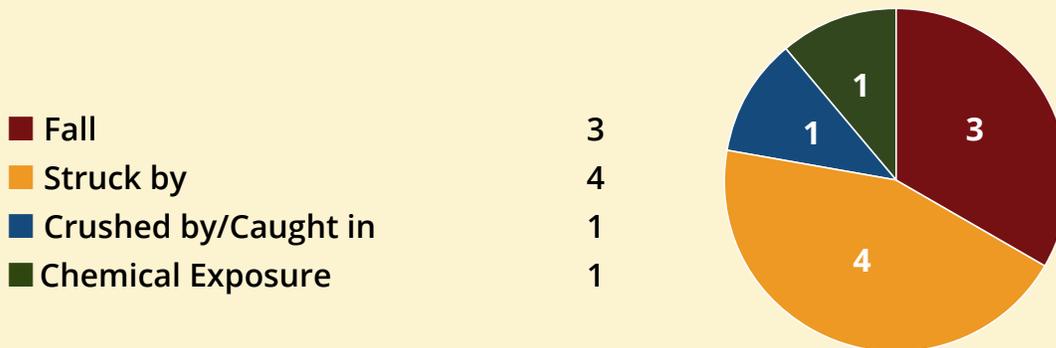


TOSHA Fatality Statistics (January - May 2024)

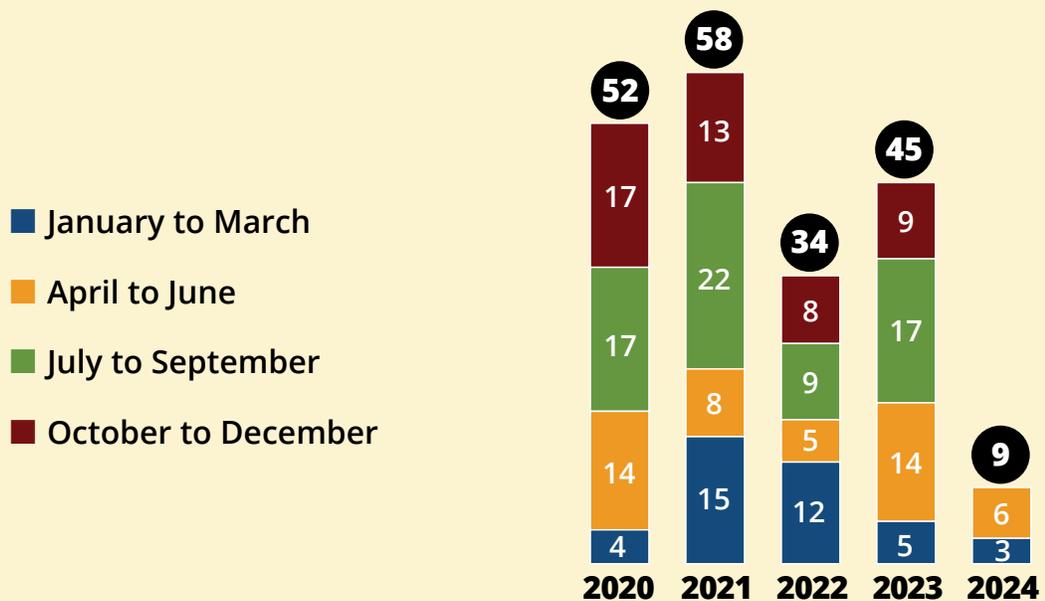
Industry; Number of Inspections (9)



Fatality Type; Number of Victims (9)



Fatality Totals per Quarter



*The 2024 statistics may change due to findings during the TOSHA investigation.



Severe Weather-TEMA

TEMA, National Weather Service Encourage Tennesseans to Prepare for Severe Weather Threats

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) and National Weather Service (NWS) are partnering to encourage Tennesseans to be prepared for severe weather threats.

“Severe weather – including thunderstorms, tornadoes, and flash floods – is a hazard in Tennessee, and we can take precautions to be ready,” said TEMA Director Patrick Sheehan. “Severe Weather Awareness Week is a reminder to all Tennesseans to act now to be better prepared before the next disaster.”

[Tennessee’s Severe Weather Awareness Week](#) (SWAW) took place February 25-March 2, 2024. Each day highlighted a severe weather topic and provided important safety and preparedness information.

“Severe Weather Awareness Week is our opportunity to prepare before disaster strikes. This week, held annually by the National Weather Service and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, serves to provide important reminders ahead of the impending severe weather season,” said Ryan Husted, NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist. “Knowing what to do during severe weather while at work, school, and home is the key to survival and safety.”

A highlight of the week was the statewide tornado drill at 9:30 a.m., CST, on Wed., Feb. 28, 2024. The drill also included a statewide test of NOAA weather radios. Schools, businesses, and local communities were encouraged to participate.

Tennesseans can prepare for severe weather by reviewing their severe weather plan and assessing their risk. At a minimum, emergency preparedness kits should include one gallon of water per-day, per-person for three to five days. Additional supplies include non-perishable food, flashlight, battery-powered radio, extra batteries, first-aid kit, personal hygiene items, cellphone charger, copies of important family documents, and pet supplies.

About the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency: TEMA’s mission is to coordinate preparedness, response and recovery from man-made, natural and technological hazards in a professional and efficient manner in concert with our stakeholders. Follow TEMA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), and at tn.gov/tema. 

Volunteer STAR News



On February 27, TOSHA Assistant Commissioner Wendy Fisher presented the employees of **Eastman Chemical Company** in Kingsport with their Volunteer STAR Award as part of the site's sixth certification effort.



On May 2, TOSHA Assistant Administrator Larry Hunt presented the employees of **WestRock** in Lewisburg with their Volunteer STAR Award as part of the site's sixth certification effort.

The Volunteer STAR is patterned after the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program and recognizes

the best of the best in safety and health programming and performance. Qualified candidates must demonstrate that they have performed in a manner that is below the national average for injury and illness rates in their industrial classification. They must also have all the critical safety and health management system components in place and involve their employees in a manner that ensures total involvement in safety and health issues. Volunteer STAR is open to all manufacturers (NAICS codes 20 – 39). Programs must be in place for at least a year, prior to evaluation.

On average for 2023 the Tennessee Volunteer STAR sites experience three-year Total Case Incident Rates (TCIR) 65% below their industry average and three-year Days Away, Restricted or Transferred Case Rates (DART) 71% below their industry average. In 2023 there were twelve (12) sites that experienced a TCIR of 0.0 and there were eighteen (18) sites that experienced a DART of 0.0. There are 33 Volunteer STAR sites, covering approximately 28,000 employees in Tennessee. ☺

For more information on Volunteer STAR, contact the VPP Manager at (800) 325-9901

TN Youth Employment Program

Safe work is rewarding work. Your employer has the responsibility to provide a safe workplace. Employers must follow all OSHA safety and health standards to prevent you from being injured or becoming ill on the job. If you are under age 18, there may be limits on the hours you work, the jobs you do, and the equipment you use. Learn about the [state wage and hour child labor laws](#) that apply to you. ☺



Together with TOSHA Quiz

Answer to question on page 11

D Before each use.

29 CFR 1926.502(d)(2) states that personal fall arrest systems shall be inspected for wear, damage, and other deterioration prior to each use. Note that OSHA's General Industry standard, 29 CFR 1910.140(c)(18), is phrased differently and requires inspection before initial use during each work shift. ☺



Safety Fest TN returned in 2024 with over 1,000 registered attendees who signed up for over 1,300 training seats, collectively accumulating 2,900 training hours in just one week. All the training was free to everyone thanks to 108 partner, sponsor, or provider organizations from federal, state, and local governments; large and small businesses; trade and labor unions; universities and colleges; and nonprofits — all promoting safety at work, at home, and in the community.

This year's event offered more than 130 classes, sessions, and demonstrations presented by local and nationally recognized experts. Classes focused on CPR, automated external defibrillator (AED), and first aid; confined spaces; chemical and industrial safety; electrical safety; fall hazards in construction; human and organization performance, leadership, and safety culture; and so much more. Demonstrations included augmented/virtual reality, helicopters, live line electrical safety, natural gas safety, robotic dogs, slip simulator, and underground and vehicle rollover safety. ©



Photos courtesy of DOE Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management.

**Save the Date for
Safety Fest TN 2025
April 28-May 2!**



**REGISTER
FOR THE
2024 TSHC
NOW!**



**DON'T MISS
THE 2024
Tennessee
Safety & Health Conference**

**JUNE 10-12
2024**

**GAYLORD OPRYLAND
RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER
NASHVILLE, TN**



Click any image to visit website

National Forklift Safety Day:
June 11, 2024

TN Most Cited Standards

988
SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

TOSHA SEMINAR SCHEDULE



- Basic Safety & Health
- Basic Safety for Utilities
- Forklift & Warehouse Safety
- Maintenance Related Standards
- OSHA 30-Hour for General Industry
- Record Keeping
- Walking, Working Surfaces

TN Department of Labor & Workforce Development | TOSHA

Small Business Safety and Health Handbook



OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CDC
NIOSH

SAVE THE DATE
SAFE + SOUND 
WEEK 2024
AUGUST 12-18, 2024

Trench Safety Stand Down
June 17-23, 2024

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