A new rule requires certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness data that they are already required to record on their onsite OSHA Injury and Illness forms. These new reporting requirements will be phased in over two years:

OSHA proposed to extend the 2017 compliance date for electronically submitting injury and illness reports from July 1, 2017 to December 1, 2017. But applicable employers can submit injury and illness data using the new electronic reporting system available NOW.

- Establishments with 250 or more employees in industries covered by the recordkeeping regulation must submit information from their 2016 Form 300A by December 1, 2017. These same employers will be required to submit information from all 2017 forms (300A, 300, and 301) by July 1, 2018.

Beginning in 2019 and every year thereafter, the information must be submitted by March 2.

- Establishments with 20-249 employees in certain high-risk industries must submit information from their 2016 Form 300A by December 1, 2017, and their 2017 Form 300A by July 1, 2018. Beginning in 2019 and every year thereafter, the information must be submitted by March 2.

For detailed information on how to get stared in the ITA system (where documents will be scanned), create your login and password, and what information must be scanned, visit Injury Tracking Application, Electronic Submission of Injury and Illness Records to OSHA.
The number of fatalities investigated by Tennessee OSHA continue to rise. As this newsletter goes to print our agency has investigated 25 work-related fatalities, 10 of which were falls from elevation. We all believe this number should be zero. Tennessee OSHA urges all employers to develop and implement an effective safety and health management system. TOSHA's Consultation program can assist employers with this effort. To find out more about this TOSHA Consultation Services [https://www.tn.gov/workforce/topic/tosha-consultative-services-and-education](https://www.tn.gov/workforce/topic/tosha-consultative-services-and-education).

I would like to thank all of the employers and employees who participated in the Fall Protection Stand Down this year. Approximately 15,000 people participated. Falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of injuries and fatalities on the job.

The 2017 40th Annual Tennessee Safety and Health Conference was a success again this year. Attendance was up 5% and the number of exhibitors was up 10%. In 2018 The Tennessee Safety and Health Conference will partner with the Voluntary Protection Programs Participants’ Association (VPPPA) [http://www.vpppa.org/](http://www.vpppa.org/) for a much larger event during August 28th – 31st, 2018. Please make plans to attend this national safety event.

Tennessee OSHA is proud to be a sponsor of the upcoming Safety Fest TN. Please make plans to attend this year’s event during September 11th – 15th, 2017 in Oak Ridge and Knoxville Tennessee. To find out more about the event, instructors, and to register [https://safetyfesttn.org/](https://safetyfesttn.org/)

If I, or anyone on our staff can assist you please contact us at 1-800-249-8510.

Steve Hawkins
Assistant Commissioner, TOSHA
In 2018 the Tennessee Safety and Health Conference will partner with the Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association, Inc. (VPPPA) and hold a joint conference. 2017 TN Safety & Health Conference attendees can attend this mega-conference at the 2017 registration fee price! Make plans to join us August 28-31, 2018!
How to View the 2017 Solar Eclipse Safely

Looking directly at the sun is unsafe except during the brief total phase of a solar eclipse (“totality”), when the moon entirely blocks the sun’s bright face, which will happen only within the narrow path of totality [https://go.nasa.gov/2pC0lhe].

Eclipse glassesThe only safe way to look directly at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed Sun is through special-purpose solar filters, such as “eclipse glasses” (example shown at left) or hand-held solar viewers. Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the sun; they transmit thousands of times too much sunlight. Refer to the American Astronomical Society (AAS) Reputable Vendors of Solar Filters & Viewers page for a list of manufacturers and authorized dealers of eclipse glasses and handheld solar viewers verified to be compliant with the ISO 12312-2 international safety standard for such products.

- Always inspect your solar filter before use; if scratched or damaged, discard it. Read and follow any instructions printed on or packaged with the filter.
- Always supervise children using solar filters.
- Stand still and cover your eyes with your eclipse glasses or solar viewer before looking up at the bright sun. After looking at the sun, turn away and remove your filter — do not remove it while looking at the sun.
- Do not look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars, or other optical device.
- Similarly, do not look at the sun through a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while using your eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewer — the concentrated solar rays will damage the filter and enter your eye(s), causing serious injury.
- Seek expert advice from an astronomer before using a solar filter with a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device. Note that solar filters must be attached to the front of any telescope, binoculars, camera lens, or other optics.
- If you are within the path of totality [https://go.nasa.gov/2pC0lhe], remove your solar filter only when the moon completely covers the sun’s bright face and it suddenly gets quite dark. Experience totality, then, as soon as the bright sun begins to reappear, replace your solar viewer to look at the remaining partial phases.
  - Outside the path of totality, you must always use a safe solar filter to view the sun directly.
  - If you normally wear eyeglasses, keep them on. Put your eclipse glasses on over them, or hold your handheld viewer in front of them.

Note: If your eclipse glasses or viewers are compliant with the ISO 12312-2 safety standard, you may look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed Sun through them for as long as you wish. Furthermore, if the filters aren’t scratched, punctured, or torn, you may reuse them indefinitely. Some glasses/viewers are printed with warnings stating that you shouldn’t look through them for more than 3 minutes at a time and that you should discard them if they are more than 3 years old. Such warnings are outdated and do not apply to eclipse viewers compliant with the ISO 12312-2 standard adopted in 2015. To make sure you get (or got) your eclipse glasses/viewers from a supplier of ISO-compliant products, see the American Astronomical Society (AAS) Reputable Vendors of Solar Filters & Viewers page.

An alternative method for safe viewing of the partially eclipsed sun is pinhole projection. For example, cross the outstretched, slightly open fingers of one hand over the outstretched, slightly open fingers of the other, creating a waffle pattern. With your back to the sun, look at your hands’ shadow on the ground. The little spaces between your fingers will project a grid of small images on the ground, showing the sun as a crescent during the partial phases of the eclipse. Or just look at the shadow of a leafy tree during the partial eclipse; you’ll see the ground dappled with crescent Suns projected by the tiny spaces between the leaves.

A solar eclipse is one of nature’s grandest spectacles. By following these simple rules, you can safely enjoy the view and be rewarded with memories to last a lifetime. More information: eclipse.aas.org/eclipse2017.nasa.gov
Osha And Niosh Team Up To Offer Updated Heat Safety App

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and OSHA have collaborated to update OSHA’s original Heat Safety Tool. The updated app, available for both Android and iPhone, provides a clearer user interface, while still providing the same information to help keep workers safe when working outdoors in hot weather. Extreme heat causes more deaths than any other weather-related hazard; each year more than 65,000 people seek medical treatment for extreme heat exposure.

Employers should encourage workers exposed to hot and humid conditions to use the app to check the heat index and relevant protective measures. The app displays the heat index in the user’s location and shows the current risk level. The app also forecasts the hourly heat index throughout the entire workday, giving employers information they can use to adjust the work environment as needed to protect workers.

More than 450,000 users have downloaded the original app since it was launched in 2011. The original OSHA app will no longer function after September 30. To download the updated app and get more information on OSHA’s efforts to help protect workers from the heat, visit our heat campaign webpage.

Summer’s here - and the time is right for: ‘Water, Rest and Shade’

The summer heat is on, so OSHA is reminding employers and workers about heat illness hazards and to take the necessary precautions when working outdoors. Those steps include gradually increasing shift lengths so workers can adapt to hot environments, providing frequent water breaks, allowing ample time to rest, and providing shade.

OSHA’s Heat Safety Campaign website raises awareness of heat illness and its prevention and offers links to educational and training resources. It also links to a free smartphone app that allows users to calculate the heat index for their location and provides reminders about what to do to prevent heat illness. Employers and safety professionals are encouraged to use the website to share examples of how they are keeping workers safe in the heat. Stories can be emailed to HeatSafetyTips@dol.gov for possible inclusion on the site and in a future issue of QuickTakes. Heat tips and photos also can be shared on Twitter using the hashtags #WaterRestShade and #ProTips.
Over 15,000 companies participated in the 2017 Safety Stand Down on Fall Protection. Blalock was one of those companies. Learn why this company enjoys being part of Safety Stand Down:

“Our company loves participating in the Safety Stand Down meetings each year. I always use these meetings to award our crews that get creative and show off their training meetings with pictures.

Our crews really focused on 3 Point Contact and falls from equipment and same level falls. (Some get really creative in the do's and don'ts) We get a lot of mileage out of the Safety Stand Downs every year.

Hope you enjoy the pictures of our Award Winning Crews. Thanks for your support and all you do to assist with our Safety Program in making sure our employees go home safely every day.” - **Scott Ward, Safety Director Blalock Companies**

Thank you to all who participated in this year’s event.
UPDATE: Crane operator certification extended

On May 22nd, 2017, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced it intends to propose an extension of the compliance date for certification of construction crane operators. Construction crane operators won’t have to meet a Nov. 10 deadline to comply with OSHA’s rule mandating they be certified by a third-party evaluator and designated as qualified. A new compliance date in November 2018 appears likely.

TOSHA will provide further notification as changes with this requirement develops.
Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA) Assistant Commissioner Steve Hawkins presented managers at Phillips 66 Spectrum Corporation in Selmer, Tenn. with the facility’s third recertification as a TOSHA Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) site. SHARP recognizes the partnership between employees, management and TOSHA’s consultative services program at facilities that operate an exemplary safety and health program. SHARP sites have injury rates below the national average for their industry. Currently TOSHA recognizes just 14 facilities across the entire state of Tennessee with this prestigious honor. “Only a few Tennessee employers reach this level of safety in the workplace,” Hawkins said. “Becoming a SHARP site is a true testament to the commitment of both the company and its employees who strive each day to maintain such a safe work environment.”

In 2016, the Selmer facility experienced only one recordable injury among its 203 employees. In the past three years, the site has worked nearly 1.1 million hours with a lost/restricted time case rate 87 percent below the national average and a total recordable incident rate that is 69 percent below the national average. “Having a safety record like this is not only good for workers, it’s just good business for employer,” Hawkins added. “We hope more Tennessee companies will take part in the SHARP program.” Because of this outstanding safety record, Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner Burns Phillips approved the recertification of the site on May 15, 2017. The Selmer facility has been a recognized SHARP site since October 2009.

To receive the award, Phillips 66 Spectrum Corporation partnered with TOSHA’s consultative services program, which works with smaller employers to improve safety and health in the workplace. TOSHA does not issue fines, penalties or citations through its consultative services program, but it does require an employer correct any identified hazards. The service is offered at no cost to the employer and is kept confidential from TOSHA compliance officers. Phillips 66 Spectrum Corporation blends and packages lubricating oils for the automotive, power equipment and motorsports industries at its Selmer location. The site opened in 1989 and in July of 2014 Spectrum Corporation was purchased and became a division of Phillips 66.

For more information on the SHARP award and TOSHA’s Consultative Services section contact TOSHA’s Nashville office at (800) 325-9901.
Fact Sheet Explains Requirements To Protect Residential Construction Workers From Confined Space Hazards

Proposed Rule Modifies Beryllium Standards For Construction And Shipyards Sectors

The Electric Power Industry: Lighting the Way for Safety and Health Programs