



PAEC SAFETY NEWS

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REMEMBER SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY - EVERYDAY.

WEBSITES FOR SAFETY INFORMATION:

1. PAEC SAFETY NEWSLETTER: www.paec.org/safetynews/index.asp
2. Security on Campus <http://www.securityoncampus.org>
3. Youth Suicide Prevention School-based Guide. The Guide and order form are online and are available for free download directly at: http://cfs.fmhi.usf.edu/StateandLocal/suicide_prevention/
4. Facility Safety Management www.fsmmag.com Environmental health and safety of the workplace.

NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION MONTH: www.nfpa.org www.firepreventionweek.org

National Fire Prevention Week: October 3 - 9



The theme for the 2004 National Fire Prevention Week is "Test Your Smoke Alarms." The observance, sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), reminds families and business owners to make sure those fire alarms, smoke alarms, and fire escape plans are intact and operational.

Smoke alarms are the great safety success story of the 20th century - but only when they're working properly and only if you know what to do when the alarm sounds. [Here's everything you need for your campaign](#) including a fire department planning kit, activities for kids and families, classroom materials, and [exclusive](#)

[products](#)

NFPA's "A Guide for Small Businesses" <http://www.nfpa.org/FPW/Biz/biz.asp>

NFPA's "Sparky the Fire Dog" web pages <http://www.nfpa.org/sparky/>

United States Fire Administration (USFA) Kid's Page <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/kids/>

OSHA Fire Safety Web Site <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/firesafety/>

IPS Investigates School Arson Incidents: (Indiana)- It was a day of interruptions for some east side middle school students. One student is in trouble for setting three fires and forcing evacuations. School officials say an eighth grader set on fire a chair and two trash cans in the girls' bathroom. •[Click here for more details](#)

THE JOKE: **The Truth Hurts-** AN OLDER COUPLE on a long car trip stopped for lunch at a roadside restaurant. Later, after they'd been back on the road for a good number of miles, the wife remembered that she'd left her sunglasses on their table at the restaurant. Her husband fussed and complained about having to go back, but he quieted down as they neared the restaurant. As he got out of the car, he said in a humble voice, "Well, as long as we're back, I might as well get my hat, too."

Slow Learner-AN OLDER CARPENTER and his young, inexperienced apprentice were building a small barn. As they were preparing to attach the siding, the chief carpenter showed the young fellow how to hold the boards while nailing them to the studs, then left him on his own. After a short while, the chief returned to check up on the lad. He noticed that the youngster was throwing about half the nails he pulled from his apron onto the ground. "Why are you throwing away so many nails?" asked the carpenter. "Well," the young man explained, "sometimes I can't hammer in a nail because when I pull it out of my apron, the head is on the wrong end. So I discard it." "You knucklehead!" shouted the chief. "Don't throw away the nails with heads on the wrong ends --they're for the other side of the barn!"

Hillbilly Birth- Deep in the back woods of Florida, a hillbilly's (Gary Snyder's) wife went into labor in the middle of the night, and the doctor was called out to assist in the delivery. Since there was no electricity, the doctor handed the Gary, father-to-be a lantern and said, "Here. You hold this high so I can see what I am doing!" Soon, a baby boy was brought into the world. "Whoa there", said the doctor, "Don't be in such a rush to put that lantern down. I think there's another one coming." Sure enough, within minutes he had delivered a baby girl. "Hold that lantern up, don't set it down there's another one!" said the doctor. Within a few minutes he had delivered a third baby. "No, don't be in a hurry to put down that lantern, it seems there's yet another one coming!" cried the doctor. Gary the hillbilly scratched his head in bewilderment, and asked the doctor, "You reckon it might be the light that's attractin' 'em?"

WORKERS COMPENSATION:



Requiring Safety Belt Use is Key Employer Policy for Preventing Job Vehicle Deaths, NIOSH Says

Providing safety belts in company or agency vehicles and requiring their use on the job are critical steps that employers should take to prevent work-related employee injuries and fatalities from motor vehicle crashes, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends. "A mandatory belt use policy is the single most important road safety policy an employer can implement and enforce," said NIOSH Director John

Howard, M.D., in remarks prepared for the OSHA/NHTSA Motor Vehicle Safety Symposium. Dr. Howard noted that in the general population, use of safety belts saved nearly 12,000 lives in motor vehicle crashes in 2000, and could have prevented an additional 9,000 fatalities had the victims been wearing safety belts, according to NHTSA estimates. Belt use also prevented almost 325,000 moderate to severe injuries in 2000, and could have prevented another 143,000 such injuries had the victims been wearing safety belts, NHTSA also estimated. Although these estimates apply to crashes in the general population, it is likely that safety belts would be equally effective in preventing work-related injuries and fatalities. In both cases, the basic risk of injury is associated with the physical forces of a crash, not necessarily with any factor unique to the use of a vehicle for carrying out the duties of a job. Injuries resulting from non-use of safety belts are estimated by NHTSA to cost employers more than \$1 billion each year in health insurance and other direct costs, Dr. Howard further noted. **For every employee involved in an on-the-job crash, the direct cost to the employer averaged \$27,750 if the employee was not wearing a safety belt, compared with \$11,310 if the employee was wearing a safety belt.** "State belt laws are not an acceptable substitute for an employer policy, as not all states have primary enforcement of their belt laws," Dr. Howard also said. Dr. Howard also reiterated NIOSH findings and recommendations that:

- ? Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of work-related deaths in the U.S.
- ? Motor vehicle safety on the job is an important public health issue, not just an occupational safety issue.
- ? Employers are in a strategic position to promote road safety on the job, which in turn advances motor vehicle safety in general.

For further information on NIOSH recommendations to prevent work-related motor vehicle fatalities and injuries, visit the NIOSH web page at www.cdc.gov/niosh/injury/traumamv.html

ACCIDENTS: *"If you don't have time to do the job safely, do you have time to do it with an employee down?"*



Some of the employee accidents for the month of Sept 2004 (39 accidents as of 30 August 2004)

- A. The EE was walking out a door way, when she slipped and fell on a slippery floor. The EE sustained injuries to her lower back, and left elbow.
- B. The EE was lifting a box of food and felt a pain in his lower back.
- C. The caller stated that EE was walking up the steps to the warehouse, EE slipped and fell on the top step. The EE has pain in her upper and lower back, right arm, and left knee.
- D. The EE was cutting through a piece of ham. The blade came off the meat and cut her pinky finger on the left hand.
- E. EE alleges while ***standing on a chair*** directing the band during pre game. While stepping off the chair his right ankle turned. EE is complaining of ankle pain. *NOTE: PAEC Risk Management bought every teacher a step ladder before school started.*

If you had one employee or student accident in 2003/2004 school year and you were their supervisor, what actions did you take to prevent this from happening again this school year 2004/2005? Talk about the accidents and document the training at your monthly total staff meeting.

TRAINING TOPIC: WORK WISE - SAFETY WORKS

TOPIC 'Safe Steps' Reduce Slips and Falls

Millions of Americans are only a step away from becoming victims of the leading cause of unintentional injuries — slips and falls. According to a recent study conducted by the Home Safety Council, 5.6 million injuries and thousands of fatalities resulted from slips and falls in the home during the year studied. Much is done to raise awareness about and prevent slips and falls in the workplace, but the high occurrence of injuries from slips and falls away from work have a huge affect on the bottom line, too, according to the National Safety Council. In an effort to reduce the high number of injuries, the Home Safety Council is launching "Safe Steps," an initiative that encourages families to identify and correct potential slips and falls hazards in and around the home. Perhaps, you will want to share this information with your employees at your next safety meeting. Some of the information can be applied to the workplace, too, and healthcare facilities, especially nursing homes. According to the "The State of Home Safety in America," adults over age 65 rank highest for home-related fall injuries and related deaths. To help older adults minimize their risk of falling, the Council is urging Americans to invest a little time in a home safety walk-through to find and fix hazards that may lead to falls. "Our goal is for all Americans to take action to identify and correct hazards that can lead to slips and falls," said Meri-K Appy, president of the Home Safety Council. "But this is especially critical for homes with older adults. Taking 'Safe Steps' helps lower their risk from falls, but it also helps protect the entire family."

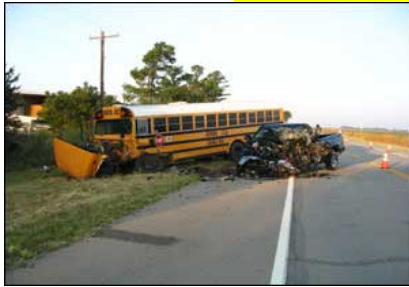
School/Home Safety Walk-Through:

- * Organize a safety walk-through to identify potential slipping, tripping and falling hazards. What to look for:
- * All stairs and steps should be protected with a secure banister or handrail.
- * Make sure all porches, hallways and stairwells are well lit. Use the maximum safe wattage in light fixtures. (Maximum wattage is typically posted inside light fixtures.) Nightlights can help light the way during nighttime hours.
- * Keep stairs, steps, landings and all floors clear. Reduce clutter and safely tuck away telephone and electrical cords out of walkways.
- * Use a non-slip matting or install adhesive safety strips in wet areas.
- * Install grab bars in bath and shower stalls. Install window guards to prevent children from falling out of windows. Keep the floor clean. Promptly clean up grease, water and other liquids.
- * Use non-skid throw rugs to reduce the chance of slipping.

* Use a sturdy step stool with handrails or ladder when climbing is necessary.

* Follow medication dosages closely. Using multiple medications (4 or more) or using medications incorrectly may lead to dizziness, weakness and other side effects. These can all lead to a dangerous fall. To learn more about preventing falls and other home injuries, take the Home Safety Council's online quiz on www.homesafetycouncil.org. The interactive tool features a slips and falls-specific quiz to help consumers assess their knowledge in this area and learn how to correct potential dangers in their home.

BUS DRIVERS: National School Bus Safety Week: October 17-23, 2004



Vernon, Texas firefighters/EMT's received a call just before dawn Monday, Sept. 13 to respond to a call involving a head-on collision of a Vernon Independent School District school bus and a 2002 Chevrolet pickup. The accident resulted in the death of an 18-year-old Vernon man. Troopers said that the bus driver did everything in his power to avoid the pickup that the saw veering over into his lane. The accident caused heavy damage to the bus and totally crushed the cab of the pickup. Emergency workers said that since there were no skid marks behind his pickup, the driver probably never saw the school bus and was most likely killed instantly. The students and bus driver received only minor injuries in the accident.

NEW DEVICE HELPS DRIVERS KEEP TRACK OF STUDENTS: Aug 31, 2004 VERO BEACH, Fla. — The School District of Indian River County plans to implement a device on 10 of its buses that will use fingerprints to determine if a child is riding on the correct bus and ensure that the child doesn't get off at the wrong stop. The district plans to install the system by October. According to *TCPalm.com*, the device reads the fingerprints of a child and sends the information to a center that tells the bus driver the child's route and where he or she is supposed to get off. The system also provides a headcount of students on board, which could help prevent leaving children on the bus. The system costs about \$2,000 per bus to install. The pilot program will cost the district about \$20,000. If the program is a success, the district plans to install the device on all 93 of its buses by the end of the school year.

TEEN PLEADS NO CONTEST TO SCHOOL BUS SLAYING, WAGONER, Okla. — A teen accused of fatally stabbing another student aboard a school bus pleaded no contest to first-degree murder Friday. According to The Associated Press, Daniel Dillingham, 16, will be held in a county jail — segregated from other inmates — until a space opens at the state maximum-security juvenile facility. Dillingham allegedly stabbed 16-year-old Carl Robinson in the back and chest on a school bus Dec. 8. Robinson, who Dillingham told investigators had been bullying him, died on the bus. Under state law, juveniles can't be detained after turning 19 unless they fail to comply with treatment, which means that Dillingham could be free in less than three years. Dillingham will be formally sentenced Sept. 3.



CUSTODIANS & MAINTENANCE

BUILDING A QUALITY WORKFORCE

HEAT ILLNESSES :

Symptoms: Headaches; Dizziness Or Lightheadedness; Weakness; Mood Changes e.g. Irritability or Confusion; Upset Stomach; Vomiting; Decreased or Dark-Colored Urine; Fainting or Passing Out; and Pale, Clammy Skin.

First Aid: Act immediately. Heat exhaustion may advance to heat stroke or death.

Move the victim to a cool, shaded area to rest. Don't leave the person alone.

If symptoms include dizziness or lightheadedness, lay the victim on his or her back and raise their legs 6 to 8 inches .

If symptoms include nausea or upset stomach, lay the victim on his or her side.

Loosen and remove any heavy clothing.

Have the person drink cool water (a cup every 15 minutes) unless sick to the stomach.

Cool the person's body by fanning and spraying with a cool mist of water or applying a wet cloth to the person's skin.

Call 911 for emergency help if the person does not feel better in a few minutes .

Heat Stroke is a medical emergency.

SAFE PRACTICES: Do heaviest work during coolest part of day.

Build up tolerance to the heat and the work activity slowly. Takes about 2 weeks to recover.

Work people in pairs .

Drink plenty of cool water, about a cup every 15 to 20 minutes .

Take frequent, short breaks in cool, shaded areas to allow the body to cool down .

Wear light, loose-fitting, breathable clothing .

Avoid eating large meals before hot work.

Avoid alcohol or beverages with caffeine.

RISK FACTORS: Persons age.

Taking certain medications. Check with your pharmacist to see if any medicines you are taking affect you during hot work.

Having a previous heat-induced illness .

Wearing personal protective equipment.

Safety for Halloween Trick-or-Treaters

As Halloween approaches, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is providing tips to prevent injuries to trick-or-treaters. "We encourage everyone who celebrates Halloween to use our safety tips to prevent injuries. Homemade costumes in particular can present a fire hazard if not made with flame resistant fabrics," said CPSC Chairman Hal Stratton. Consumers can make this year's holiday a safe one by following these safety tips on costumes, treats and decorations.

Costumes

When purchasing costumes, masks, beards and wigs, look for flame-resistant fabrics such as nylon or polyester, or look for the label "Flame Resistant." Flame-resistant fabrics will resist burning and should extinguish quickly. To minimize the risk of contact with candles and other fire sources, avoid costumes made with flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts.

- * Purchase or make costumes that are light, bright and clearly visible to motorists.
- * For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights. Bags or sacks also should be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. Reflective tape is usually available in hardware, bicycle and sporting goods stores.
- * Children should carry flashlights to see and be seen.
- * Costumes should fit well and not drag on the ground to guard against trips and falls.
- * Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Oversized high heels are not a good idea.
- * Tie hats and scarves securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes and obstructing vision.
- * If your child wears a mask, make sure it fits securely, provides adequate ventilation, and has eye holes large enough to allow full vision.
- * Swords, knives and similar costume accessories should be made of soft, flexible materials.

Treats

- * Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has examined them carefully for evidence of tampering.
- * Carefully examine any toys or novelty items received by trick-or-treaters less than three years of age. Do not allow young children to have any items that are small enough to present a choking hazard or that have small parts or components that could separate during use and present a choking hazard.

Decorations

- * Keep candles and jack-o'-lanterns away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.
- * Remove obstacles from lawns, steps and porches when expecting trick-or-treaters.
- * Indoors, keep candles and jack-o'-lanterns away from curtains, decorations and other combustibles that could be ignited. Do not leave burning candles unattended.
- * Indoors or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets.
- * Don't overload extension cords.

Consumers can also view a video clip about Halloween safety tips ([standard version](#) or a [higher quality version](#) - broadband connection recommended) ([transcript](#)). This is in "[streaming video](#)" format.

THE PARTING SHOT:



The following is a photo of:

1. Results of airliner maintenance now being outsourced
2. New "afterburner" kit installed for extra boost during takeoff
3. New in-flight entertainment feature added for passenger's enjoyment
4. *Good ol' fashion compressor stall.*