

August Safety Reminders

As we roll into the hottest month of the summer, it's a good time to take a time out and think about some safety issues that pop up this time of year. Whether you are at work, home or on vacation keep these safety tips in mind:

Heat

The temperature and heat index really kick up this time of year. You need to protect yourself from heat exhaustion, heat stroke and sunburn. Make sure to drink before you are thirsty and hydrate yourself all day long. Use sun block to protect your skin from the sun's harmful rays. If you start to feel lightheaded, dizzy and feel like you can't control your body temperature tell your supervisor. You may be feeling the early signs of heat stroke.

Snakes, Bugs & Rodents – Oh My!

Most living things are not big fans of extreme heat and will seek cool dark areas to avoid it. Unfortunately, these cool dark areas can be in your warehouse, crawlspaces or even in scrap piles. Keep an eye out for snakes and insects that may have nested within your operation. Be careful not to reach blindly into dark holes or tight spaces. Report strange insect or snake bites.

Chemical Storage

Hot sun can turn metal storage containers into bake ovens. Make sure that flammable liquids like gasoline are stored in cool, well ventilated areas. Get rid of plastic gas cans and replace them with metal safety cans. Safety cans have built in pressure relief tops and spark arrestors. Even metal cans should be stored out of the sun.

Dead Grass & Trash

By this time of the year, the grass has grown, withered and dried out. Obviously, long dead grass burns very easily and spreads quickly. Make sure to keep the grass trimmed and trash picked up. These easy burning materials can be the fuel to create large property fires.

Give 'em A Brake

The roads are packed with extra travelers and construction projects this time of the year. Slow down in road construction zones. Nobody likes customers who speed through the yard where you work and road crews don't like speeders where they work.

Stay Cool. Be Safe.

This e-mail was produced by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. For more information, visit us on the Web at www.ISRI.org
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