

NEWSLETTER

BIG SKY
CHAPTER



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Big Sky Chapter



2023-2024

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ASSP President's Message

Embrace Lifelong Learning

James R. Thornton, CSP, CIH, FASSP, FAIHA,
2023-24 ASSP President and ASSP Foundation Chair



In the dynamic landscape of OSH, we must recognize the critical importance of continuous learning. As we all experience each day, OSH is not a static field. New technologies, regulations and challenges emerge constantly, demanding that we equip ourselves with both technical expertise and soft skills. Embracing lifelong learning through ASSP and the ASSP Foundation, its charitable arm, can ensure that we remain at the forefront of our profession, safeguarding the well-being of workers and fostering an organizational culture that truly values workplace safety.

Stay Ahead of the Curve

Our workers encounter a wide range of hazards, and helping our organizations identify and mitigate these risks is driven by our ability to provide technical knowledge and guidance. Staying current on the latest equipment, methodologies, technologies and best practices is crucial for safeguarding our workers.

ASSP provides a multitude of educational opportunities, including webinars, workshops, conference and certificate programs, as well as certification preparation courses. We also publish *Professional Safety* and a selection of technical publications. All of these offerings meet our members at all stages of their careers. From introductory offerings to advanced courses, these resources enable us to continuously improve our technical competencies.

We also publish voluntary consensus standards that capture best practices well beyond what is required in regulatory standards. Implementing these standards can help us guide our organizations' efforts to develop programs that elevate overall organizational performance by contributing to greater productivity, higher employee engagement and better profitability.

Influence Culture & Success

Beyond being technically proficient, we must cultivate skills to influence organizational culture. These skills, which include effective communication, leadership, problem-solving and collaboration, are equally crucial to our success.

ASSP recognizes the significance of these competencies and delivers a variety of leadership development programs, free learning resources, conference sessions and other education programs to help you strengthen your proficiency. By doing so, you can more effectively communicate with workers, collaborate with colleagues to achieve desired results and influence corporate executives. This will help ensure that safety is a core organizational value.

Adapt to a Constantly Changing World

The pace of technological advancement and regulatory changes makes lifelong learning a necessity. Embracing a continuous learning mindset enables us to adapt swiftly to new challenges and capitalize on emerging opportunities. The ASSP Foundation plays a pivotal role in supporting this pursuit by offering academic scholarships and career development grants to aid current and future OSH professionals in our educational endeavors.

We also can benefit from opportunities to build our network through our ASSP involvement, whether within a local chapter, practice specialty or common interest group, as a volunteer leader, or through activities such as writing an article, delivering a session or serving on a standards development committee. Each engagement enables us to readily interact with industry peers to share experiences and insights.

Take the Pathway to Career Excellence

Continuing education and professional development not only enhances our effectiveness but also provides a pathway to career advancement. Employers seek individuals who display a commitment to ongoing learning, recognizing that such individuals bring innovation and adaptability to their roles.

By tapping into ASSP's wealth of educational resources and support, volunteer leadership opportunities and industry connections, each of us can bolster our experience and better position ourselves as key contributors to business success. By embracing this commitment to education and professional development, we can truly make a lasting impact in our organizations and contribute to the advancement of our profession.

Working together for a safer, stronger future



Advance Your Career



Expand Your Network



Grow Your Knowledge

Big Sky Chapter

The Big Sky Chapter serves safety professionals in the entire State of Montana, Northern Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park. We provide accessible, face-to-face opportunities for ASSP members to get involved with their local professional community and reach their highest level of performance. By joining our chapter, you'll have opportunities to gain leadership skills, expand your network and grow your technical knowledge to become a better safety professional.

American Society of Safety Professionals

For more than 100 years, ASSP has been at the forefront of helping occupational safety and health professionals protect people and property. Our global membership of over 37,000 professionals covers every industry, developing safety and health management plans that prevent deaths, injuries and illnesses. We advance our members and the safety profession through education, advocacy, standards development and a professional community.

Upcoming Events

SAFETY Pint Night

Aug 24 | 5-8pm | Butte Brewery Co

Coffee Date with Big Sky Board

Sept | TBD | Virtual

Trench Safety Outreach

Sept 20 | 8am-5pm | Great Falls

Trench Safety Outreach

Sept 26/27 | 8am-5pm | Billings



**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Big Sky Chapter

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Big Sky Chapter



PRESIDENT



TREASURER



COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR



DELEGATE



SECRETARY



PAST PRESIDENT



VICE PRESIDENT



STUDENT ADVISOR



PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR



2023-2024

Chapter Recognition



SILVER LEVEL CHAPTER
2019-2020



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER
2018-2019



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2017-2018



SILVER LEVEL CHAPTER
2016-2017



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2015-2016



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2014-2015



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2013-2014



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER
2012-2013

Regional Operating
Committee
Spring 2023
ColoRADO !



**2022
OUTSTANDING STUDENT
SECTION AWARD**



Follow Us on Social Media!



Join Us!

**Meet & Greet Social
Event**



SAFETY PINT NIGHT

August 24th | 5:00-8:00PM



Butte Brewing Co.



| 465 E Galena St. Butte |

**\$1 of Every Pint ordered is donated to the
ASSP Big Sky Chapter**

*See
you
there!*



**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Big Sky Chapter

Connect | Engage | Network



GREAT JOB

2023

811
Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

TRENCH SAFETY STAND DOWN

June 20, 2023
1203 S Church Ave
Bozeman, MT
10:00 AM - 12:00 pm

Schedule of Events:

- Opening Remarks
- OSHA Discussion
- Safe and Unsafe Trench Discussion
- Questions and Answers
- Fire Department / EMS interaction

Stand Down Focus:
Trench & Excavation Hazards

Reinforce the importance of using trench protective systems

Protecting workers from trenching hazards

Partners: MARTEL, PARTNER, alliance, sunbelt



**MORE EVENTS
COMING SOON!**

Trench Safety Stand Down

01 COMPETENT PERSON TRAINING
DATE: Tuesday, August 8, 2023
TIME: 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
LOCATION: Payson, AZ
Payment Insurance: \$450 (includes travel, lodging, meals, and incidentals)

02 QUALITY TRENCH SAFETY TRAINING
DATE: Tuesday, August 8, 2023
TIME: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
LOCATION: Payson, AZ
Payment Insurance: \$450 (includes travel, lodging, meals, and incidentals)

FOCUS AREAS:

- Trench & Excavation Hazards
- Protecting workers from trenching hazards
- Heat Illness Prevention

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- Opening Remarks
- Discussion with OSHA
- Safe & Unsafe Trench Discussion
- Q & A

Partners: Sunbelt Rentals, Payson, AZ, SANDRY, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS, PAYSON, AZ



WATCH NOW



**Now Offering Trench
Competent Person Training!!**

This course covers 29 CFR 1926 Subpart P - OSHA Excavation Standards and applicable state standards for trench excavation safety. Topics covered – Definition of a competent person, specific excavation requirements, requirements for protective systems, soil classifications, sloping and benching, various types of shoring and the selection of protective systems.

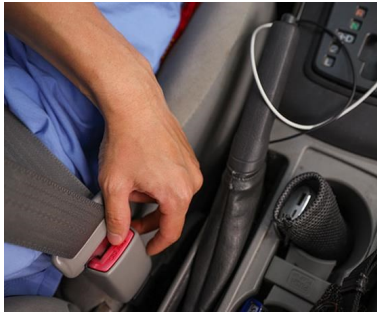
Upon course completion all participants will receive a certificate of completion as well as a wallet card that is issued by Sunbelt Rentals and instructor Lance Palmer.

There is a \$75.00 charge for each participant, this will also be billed upon course completion.

If any questions or to RSVP for Competent Person Training please contact Lance Palmer lance.palmer@sunbeltrentals.com.

alliance
An OSHA Cooperative Program





September Safety Workshop Fatalities at Work: Nightmare on our Roads

Montana State Fund's Safety Management Consultants will safely hit the road this September to present this free safety workshop, **Fatalities at Work: Nightmare on our Roads**.

[Register Now](#)

Workshop Topic

Infamous characters like Michael Myers, Hannibal Lecter, and Freddy Kreuger are exaggerated threats in Hollywood horror films. But out of the theater, we face a real live threat, fatalities at work. Montana tragically loses about 40 people per year to occupational fatalities through events such as slips and falls, contact with equipment, violence, and motor vehicle crashes. In fact, motor vehicle crashes are the #1 cause of work-related deaths in the United States. We want to turn that statistic around. In this workshop we'll examine the fatality at work challenge in Montana, then we'll focus on the hazards of the road, ways to prepare for safe travels and how driving defensively can be the difference between horror and a happy ending.

Training Dates and Locations:

The free trainings are open to all Montanans. You do not need to be a Montana State Fund policyholder to attend. Trainings run 8:30 am- Noon.

Glasgow: Wednesday, September 6 - Cottonwood Inn

Miles City: Thursday, September 7 - Sleep Inn & Suites

Billings: Friday, September 8 - Hampton Inn West 1-90. Ember Lane

Bozeman: Wednesday, September 13 - Hilton Garden Inn

Helena: Thursday, September 14 – Holiday Inn Express

Great Falls: Friday, September 15 - Holiday Inn Convention Center

Butte: Tuesday, September 19 - La Quinta Inn

Kalispell: Thursday, September 21 - Hampton Inn

Missoula: Friday, September 22 - Best Western Grant Creek Inn



Interested? [Register Now](#). If you have questions, contact the [Montana State Fund Safety Group](#).



IMPORTANT: Check This Out



The Value of Education & Certifications by Justin Molocznik

Embracing a lifelong journey of learning is synonymous with being a dedicated safety and health professional. We can all recognize this exists in both a formal and informal process, but to be successful and impactful it remains consistent. What is the value of pursuing education and certification?

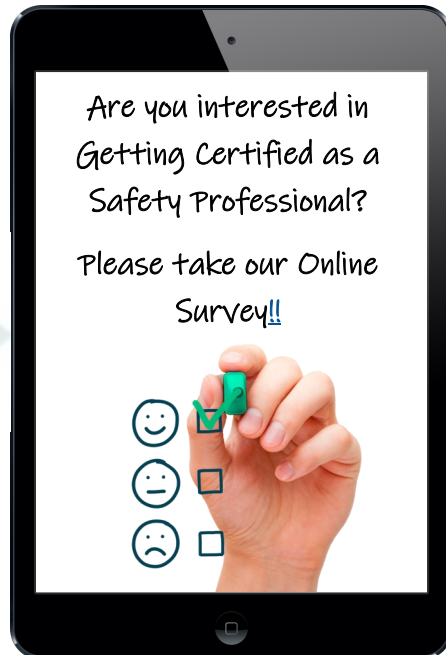
Click [HERE](#) to read more!



Episode 97: Encore Presentation: **How to Navigate the World of Occupational Safety and Health Certifications** ([HERE](#))

ASSP News & Articles: **Should You Go to Grad School or Get a Safety Certification?** ([HERE](#))

ASSP News & Articles: **Working, Specializing and Getting Certified as a Safety Professional: Where to Start?** ([HERE](#))



Worth the Time to Check-Out



Authentic Leadership & Safety Climate

Learn about the concept of authentic leadership, including safety-related challenges and solutions, and the impact on safety climate.

Read more ([HERE](#)).



Episode 109: Building an Effective Safety Management System for a Contingent Workforce

Sponsored by Avetta. Scott DeBow, principal of health/safety & environmental at Avetta, discusses effective risk management for the contingent workforce.

Listen ([HERE](#)).



Episode 111: Creating a More Sustainable Future and Improving Safety and Health

Sponsored by Grainger. Sally Smart and Travis Kruse of Grainger discuss how safety professionals can help their organizations become more sustainable.

Listen ([HERE](#)).



FREE eBook: How to Calculate a Safety Budget That Gets Approved

Many OSH professionals say that creating a departmental budget is a difficult task, one they often must figure out on their own, with no training or support. If that sounds familiar, this eBook is for you! Get practical advice and step-by-step instructions to create a budget that management will approve!

Download ([HERE](#))

Episode 110: OSHA Consultation: Helping Businesses on the Path to Continuous Safety Improvement

Todd Schultz, chief administrative officer of the Nevada Safety Consultation and Training Section, shares the benefits of OSHA's On-Site Consultation Program.

Listen ([HERE](#)).



Don't Miss These!

Pandemic Challenges: How to Return to Work Safely

This course series is developed with funding from OSHA under Susan Harwood training grant and offers guidance on how to effectively advance workplace safety and health by identifying and preventing infectious diseases including COVID-19. The training is led by well-known experts. Consider registering for all courses or select the topic most valuable to you and your team.

Occupational safety and health professionals (OSH) play a key role in bringing employees and contractors back into the workplace following pandemics such as COVID-19. Gain information and review examples of practices OSH professionals can use to help their organization resume operations and safely return people to a traditional work environment. Use practical examples of how to conduct a hazard assessment to create a plan for your workplace to effectively identify and mitigate hazards and return to work safely.

DATE: Thursday, August 17, 2023

TIME: 9:00AM - 12:00PM

Learn More ([HERE](#))



Infectious Respiratory Viruses: Do we need a Workplace Health and Safety Standard?

Sponsored by Industrial Hygiene Practice Specialty.

This webinar will review the history of an OSHA standard for infectious diseases, starting with the a temporary standard for tuberculosis in the 1990s through the Emergency Temporary Standards for COVID-19.

Dr. Lisa Brosseau from the University of Minnesota, Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy will review and discuss the small number of state OSHA programs that developed standards for COVID-19 and given what we know today about infectious disease transmission, Dr. Brosseau will discuss whether there is enough evidence to support the development of an infectious disease standard for all workplaces and what such a standard might contain.



DATE: Thursday, September 14, 2023

TIME: 12:00PM

Learn More ([HERE](#))

SAFETY EDUCATION

Accessible. Practical. Impactful.

When you invest in continuing education, you're investing in yourself. ASSP offers safety education for every level of your career, from Beginner (B) to Intermediate (I) to Advanced (A). ASSP courses are carefully curated to help you exceed safety standards and immediately put what you learn into practice.

Click on a topic to jump to that section:



Compliance



Safety Management Systems



Fall Protection



Risk Assessment & Management



Total Worker Health



Business & Leadership



Certification Prep



Math Toolbox



**How Do You
Embark on a Waste
Reduction
Journey?**

Download
Whitepaper [HERE](#)



**Optimizing Contractor
Safety Management:
Frameworks
and Technologies
for Managing Risk
and Generating
Results**

Click [HERE](#)



**See What's on the
Mind of Safety
Professionals?**

Download Trend
Report [HERE](#)



Lea este boletín en español aquí.

OSHA Announces Hazard Alert for Heat

On July 27, 2023, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued a heat hazard alert to remind employers of their obligation to protect workers against heat illness or injury in outdoor and indoor workplaces. OSHA uses hazard alerts to provide specific information on safety and health hazards to employers, workers and other stakeholders. An alert describes the hazard and offers recommendations on how hazardous exposures can be eliminated or reduced and what actions employers should take to protect employees.

To read the hazard alert, click [here](#).

HAZARDALERT

Extreme Heat Can Be Deadly to Workers

New Resources for Heat Illness Prevention

OSHA has two new resources available for download.

The first is a "Don't Wait... HYDRATE" Sticker available in English and Spanish. These stickers can be given to workers, placed around the workplace, including on hard hats, and in break areas to encourage drinking cool water. To download, click [here](#).

The second is a "Heat Illness Illustrated Fact Sheet" This fact sheet shows how heat illness can be prevented and actions to take when workers experience symptoms. To download, click [here](#).



Hot Tips to Stay Safe in the Heat

Drinking enough fluids is one of the most important things you can do to prevent heat illness at work. Drink water before, during, and after work. Post this [chart](#) in your workplace and use it to assess your urine color to determine how hydrated you are.

Dehydrated? Urine trouble.



Well hydrated
No trouble here!
Maintain hydration.



Hydrated
Drink a little more water
to stay out of trouble!



Dehydrated
Trouble! Drink water until
you are well hydrated.



Severely dehydrated
Big trouble!
Drink water immediately!

Don't wait to hydrate! Prevent heat illness.



[osha.gov/heat](#)



Hot Tips to Stay Safe in the Heat

Workers should be trained to recognize the symptoms of heat illness in themselves and the signs in others. Workers should not try to diagnose the illness itself (e.g., heat stroke vs. heat exhaustion) but instead be able to recognize that it's happening and take immediate action.

Use the [infographic](#) below to train your workers to identify the signs and symptoms of heat illness and the actions to take in response to them. Don't wait until it's too late; train your workers today!

The following are signs of a medical emergency!



- Abnormal thinking or behavior
- Slurred speech
- Seizures
- Loss of consciousness

- 1 > **CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY**
- 2 > **COOL THE WORKER RIGHT AWAY WITH WATER OR ICE**
- 3 > **STAY WITH THE WORKER UNTIL HELP ARRIVES**



Watch for any other signs of heat illness and act quickly. When in doubt, call 911.

If a worker experiences:

- > Headache or nausea
- > Weakness or dizziness
- > Heavy sweating or hot, dry skin
- > Elevated body temperature
- > Thirst
- > Decreased urine output



Take these actions:

- > Give water to drink
- > Remove unnecessary clothing
- > Move to a cooler area
- > Cool with water, ice, or a fan
- > Do not leave alone
- > Seek medical care if needed



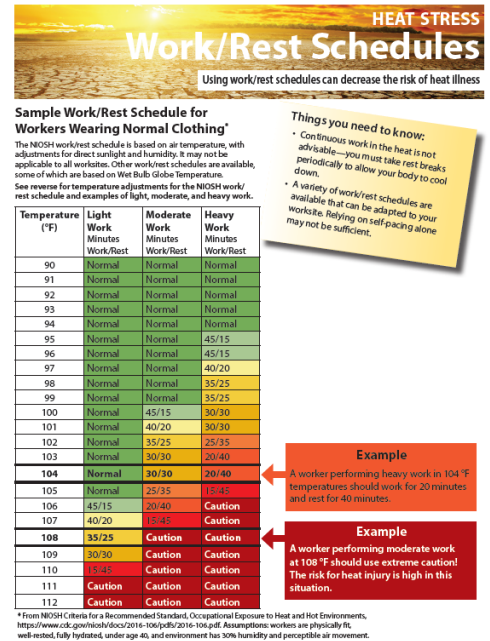
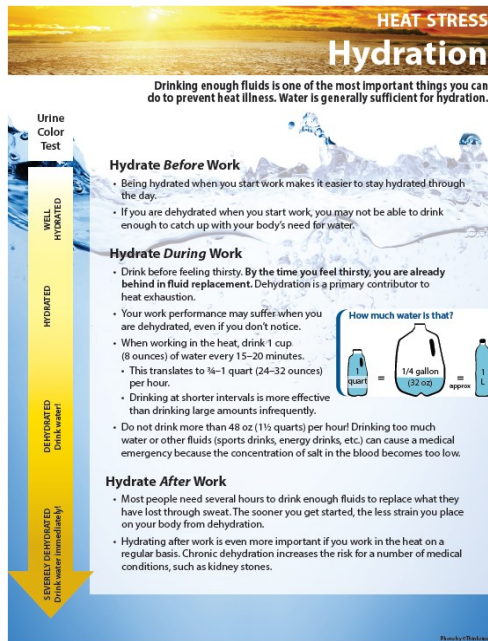
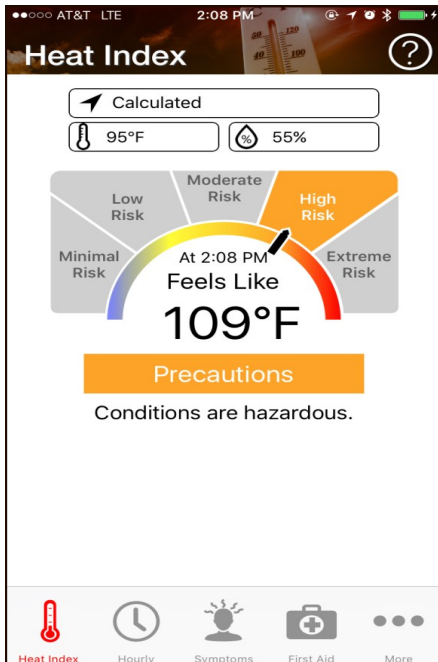
Heat Illness Prevention

Water Keeps You Going.



Don't wait to hydrate! Prevent heat illness. Drink cool water even if you are not thirsty — at least 1 cup every 20 minutes.

More OSHA Heat Resources



Click on each infographic for more information



Plan Ahead and Be Prepared

Provide training on heat illness to all workers. Have an emergency plan.

For more information:
1-800-321-OSHA (6742)
TTY 1-877-889-5627
www.osha.gov/heat

Federal law entitles workers to a safe workplace. Workers have the right to speak up about hazards without fear of retaliation. See www.osha.gov/workers for information about how to file a confidential complaint with OSHA and ask for an inspection.
1-800-321-OSHA (6742) | TTY 1-877-889-5627
www.osha.gov/heat

OSHA 3422-07R 2023

Work Safely in Heat

Indoor and outdoor workers are at risk for heat illness.

Heat illness is preventable

Drink cool water
 Take rest breaks
 Find shade or a cool area

Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing where possible
 Check on each other
 Some equipment can increase your heat exposure

COMPANY NAME HERE

Heat-Illness Prevention Plan

This material was produced under grant number SH-05032-SH8 from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U. S. Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U. S. Government.



SUGGESTION



Suggestions for next newsletter topics or want specific information shared?!
Please send [HERE](#).



Are you interested in sharing how you got in the Safety & Health field, lessons you learned along the way and/or want to give our readers any advice or tips please click [HERE](#) to complete the [Big Sky Chapter Member Spotlight Questionnaire](#)!