

Oregon OSHA

OSHSPA State Plan Report October 2015

Michael Wood, Administrator

I. Significant Legislative/Programmatic Changes

Legislatively Mandated Rulemaking

Nothing to report.

Legislative Activity

Nothing to report.

Other Rulemaking Activity

Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution; Electrical Protective Equipment – in general industry, and construction. Oregon OSHA adopted a set of Oregon-initiated rules in new Division 2/RR Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution, to cover general industry and construction on October 9, 2015, becoming effective January 1, 2016. The combined new rules in Division 2/RR replaces 1910.269 and all rules in Division 3/V (Power Transmission and Distribution).

Oregon Rules for Firefighters. Oregon OSHA will adopt changes to OAR 437-002-0182 Oregon Rules for Firefighters, in general industry, in October 2015. Updates will better align Oregon's firefighter safety and health rules with recognized and accepted consensus standards and industry practices. Training and education, requirements for protective ensembles, and prohibiting riding on tailboards, tail steps, or running boards, are included in the changes. The effective date is July 1, 2016.

Fall Protection. In response to federal OSHA, Oregon OSHA convened an advisory group to examine our fall protection rules and trigger heights. Proposed rulemaking will be filed in November 2015 with a number of hearings planned after the first of the year. Fall protection trigger heights in Oregon are currently 10-foot; the proposal for construction activities would be a six-foot trigger height. There will be a phase-in period for this new height to January 1, 2017. Slide guards will be phased out as primary fall protection to October 1, 2017.

*All adopted and proposed rules are available at our website <http://www.orosha.org>
- look under Rule Activity.*

II. New Developments/Activities/Notable Cases

Activities:

Oregon OSHA Training Grant

Starting July 1, 2015, Oregon OSHA accepted applications for the development of innovative workplace safety and health training programs. The training grants focus on programs that target a high hazard Oregon industry (construction, agriculture, young workers, etc.) or a specific work process to reduce or eliminate hazards. Grant applications were due Oct. 9, 2015. The five applications received will be reviewed and the grantees will be determined after the review process is completed.

Oregon OSHA new Mobile Guide

Oregon OSHA now has a mobile version (with audio) in English and Spanish of safe practices when working around hazardous agricultural chemicals. This guide helps workers understand how to reduce the dangers from pesticides. These are available at <http://www.orosha.org/>.

Oregon OSHA two new Fact Sheets

Oregon OSHA's two new fact sheets cover key requirements in the agency's oxygen-fuel gas welding and cutting rule (OAR 437-002-2253), which went into effect May 1 and applies to general industry and construction employers. These are available at <http://www.orosha.org/>.

Oregon OSHA relocated their Portland field office

In July, Oregon OSHA relocated the Portland field office to Durham Plaza, 16760 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd, Suite 200, Tigard, Oregon 97224.

Oregon OSHA's Workers' Memorial Scholarships

On April 14, Oregon OSHA awarded through a public ceremony in Salem, two \$500 and two \$1000 scholarships to students who are a dependent or spouse of an Oregon worker who was fatally injured or permanently disabled while on the job.



2016 Video Contest open to all Oregon High school students

The contest is now open to high school students across Oregon. Students are asked to create a 90-second or less video with the overall theme of "Speak up. Work safe." Videos should inspire teens who are working (or who will be working) in many different types of jobs – about the importance of speaking up in the workplace. Contest winners will be unveiled at a screening event in spring 2016, and winning entries will be posted on YouTube. The top three entries will take home cash prizes ranging from \$300 to \$500, and students will earn a matching amount for their school. The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2016.

Newsletters

Oregon OSHA publishes three newsletters: The “Resource” (a general interest publication), the “Construction Depot” (for the construction industry) and the “Forest Activities News” (for the logging and forest industry). These are available at <http://www.orosha.org/> .



The *Health and Safety Resource* newsletter is published every two months. The most recent was October 2015.

Some of the highlights in this issue are:

- The continuing challenge of fatalities
- Blissful ignorance: It’s not the way to deal with hazardous energy
- Understanding the three critical components of an energy control program
- Going the Distance with Arctic Sheet Metal safety director Clark Vermillion



The *Construction Depot* newsletter is published monthly. The most recent was December 2015.

Some of the highlights in the issue are:

- Box trucks and internal-combustion engines can be deadly
- Construction Q&A: Can I disconnect backup alarms on heavy equipment?
- Workplace injuries can harm family members, too
- New reporting and recordkeeping rules take effect Jan. 1, 2016
- Oregon OSHA to propose changes to construction fall-protection requirements
- Mid-Oregon construction (and agriculture) Safety Summit returns to Bend in January



The *Forest Activities News* is published when significant and or interesting logging/forest activities arise. The most recent was February 2015.

Some of the highlights in the issue are:

- Introducing the Forest Activities Advisory Committee
- Oregon OSHA adopts exemption to 437-007-0780 (Protective Structures for Operators)
- Oregon OSHA proposing changes to recordkeeping and reporting requirements
- OR-FACE offers resources for the logging industry
- Oregon State, Northwest Forest Worker Center receive training grants
- FAQ: Leg protection and slash cuts
- Logging accidents reported to Oregon OSHA in 2014

Notable Case:

An employee of Fallon Logging Co. Inc., Tillamook, Oregon was operating a John Deere 850 caterpillar to yard trees down a gravel road as cutters were falling trees directly above him. The ground was extremely steep. Two trees broke loose from the hill above him and slid down the hill into the cab of the machine. One tree went beside him while the other went through the back of his seat, through his right buttocks and pinned him to the dash of the machine.

The victim was rescued by other employees at the job site and transported by a company pick-up truck to an ambulance waiting six miles down the mountain. The ambulance transported the victim to a hospital in Portland, OR. The victim was released from the hospital a few days later.

Oregon OSHA cited Fallon Logging Co. Inc. for two serious violations at \$1470 each. The first citation was under OAR 437-007-0770(18): The John Deere 850 Caterpillar was equipped with a seat belt but it was not being worn at the time of the accident and the second citation was under OAR 437-007-0225(1): During the course of the work being conducted, an inspection had not been done to ensure that employees were not working beneath unstable objects.



Recent or Upcoming Occupational Safety and Health Conferences

Western Pulp, Paper, & Forest Products Safety & Health Conference
Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach
Portland, Oregon
December 1 - 4, 2015

Mid-Oregon Construction Safety Summit
The Riverhouse Resort and Convention Center
Bend, Oregon
January 25 - 26, 2016

Cascade Occupational Safety & Health Conference
Valley River Inn
Eugene, Oregon
March 8 - 9, 2016

Northwest Safety & Health Summit (by Region X VPPPA)
Boise Centre and the Grove Hotel
Boise, ID
May 17 - 19, 2016

Blue Mountain Occupational Safety & Health Conference
Pendleton Convention Center
Pendleton, OR
June 6 - 7, 2016

Questions?

Contact the Conference Section at (503) 378-3272
or toll-free in Oregon at (888) 292-5247, option 1.
or send e-mail to: oregon.conferences@state.or.us

III. Areas of Concern: Nothing new to report.

IV. Information Sought from Other State Programs: Nothing new to report.

V. Administrative Changes: Nothing new to report.

VI. Contact Information: Phone: (503) 378-3272, Fax: (503) 947-7461

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