

RESOURCE

September, October, November (2002)

GOSH
CONFERENCE

2003



*Solutions for New Challenges
in Safety & Health*

Get Ready for GOSH 2003

It has become a 50-year-plus tradition for Oregon and Southwest Washington’s workplace safety and health professionals – and it returns next March: The 2003 Oregon Governor’s Occupational Safety and Health (GOSH) Conference, March 3-6, 2003, at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland. The theme for the biennial event is “Solutions for New Challenges in Safety & Health.”

“This conference is the best-known event for safety and health on the West Coast,” says Laveryne Gray of Oregon OSHA’s Conferences Section. “The 2003 Conference will feature some of the best-known speakers who are experts in safety and health.”

The 2003 GOSH Conference will feature timely topics for the business community, including workplace safety and bioterrorism. “We will have a special workshop called ‘Responding to Terrorism in Oregon’ that the FBI will be involved with,” says Gray, “and a full-day workshop on crisis preparedness at work.”

Thirty full-day workshops are scheduled during the event, and 77 single-topic classes will take place during the four-day conference.

Award Nominations for 2003 GOSH Conference now online

Major achievements in workplace health and safety here in Oregon deserve recognition, and the biennial Governor’s Occupational Safety and Health Conference (GOSH) has added a new feature that will make the recognition process easier for the 2003 GOSH Conference in March.

See “Award nominations” page 2

“These are professional-level training programs that will benefit anyone who works in safety and health,” says Gray.

Exhibitors will offer innovative information and products (more than 150 companies and groups participated in 2001) and there will be an awards luncheon to honor outstanding achievements in health and safety.

The GOSH Conference is a co-production of Oregon OSHA and the American Society of Safety Engineers, Columbia-Willamette Chapter. For additional information about the 2003 GOSH Conference, go to the Oregon OSHA Web site, www.orosha.org, or contact the Conferences Section of Oregon OSHA, (503) 378-3272, or toll-free (888) 292-5247, option 1. ■

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“Award nominations” from page 1

Award-nomination forms for the 2003 GOSH Conference are now available for downloading from the Oregon OSHA Web site, www.orosha.org, under “Conferences.”

Nominations for awards are open in five areas:

Employers, either private sector or public sector

Small Employer – Thirty employees or under
Medium Employer – 31 to 99 employees
Large Employer – more than 99 employees

Safety Committee Awards,

for either private sector or public sector

Small Employer – Thirty employees or under
Medium Employer – 31 to 99 employees
Large Employer – more than 99 employees

Individual Awards

Industrial Hygienist
Individual or Work Team
Health Care Professional
Labor Representative
Safety Professional

Association Award

Recognizes outstanding achievement in enhancing workplace safety and health by an organization.

Lifesaving Award

Recognizes the actions of a person, or persons, whose efforts have saved the lives of people or have demonstrated heroic efforts to save lives while on the job.

“There are a number of people in Oregon who are putting forth leadership and energy to improve workplace safety and health,” says Peter De Luca, administrator of Oregon OSHA. “The GOSH Conference provides a great opportunity to recognize these contributors and stress that we have workplace safety leaders throughout the state who make it their mission to reduce the number of injured or killed workers.”

2001 marked the twelfth consecutive year of decline in the number of workers injured on the job in Oregon, and the number of deaths on the job eligible for workers’ compensation dropped to a record low of 34 cases in 2001.

Completed nomination forms must be received by October 18, 2002. Awards will be presented during the 2003 GOSH Conference, scheduled for March 3-6, 2003, at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland.

The GOSH Conference, presented in odd-numbered years, is a co-production of the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (OR-OSHA) and the American Society of Safety Engineers, Columbia-Willamette Chapter. ■

For additional information about the awards-nomination process or the 2003 GOSH Conference, contact the Conferences Section of Oregon OSHA, (503) 378-3272, or toll-free (888) 292-5247, option one.

YOUR SAFETY PROGRAM DESERVES RECOGNITION!

**GOSH
CONFERENCE**

2003

OREGON GOVERNOR'S
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
& HEALTH CONFERENCE

*Solutions
for
New
Challenges
in
Safety
&
Health*

Nomination Packets

for the prestigious

2003 GOSH Awards

*are NOW AVAILABLE on the
following Web sites:*

www.assecwc.org (ASSE)

www.orosha.org (OR-OSHA)

**NOMINATIONS ARE DUE BY
OCTOBER 18, 2002**

*For more information, call
OR-OSHA's Conference Section,
(503) 378-3272*

Administrator's Message



Peter De Luca

In our last issue of *RESOURCE*, we celebrated a victory of sorts. We reported that in 2001, Oregon had a record low number of workplace fatalities. That there were so few was worthy of note. This year will be much different.

By the end of the second quarter of 2002, we had significantly more fatalities than in 2001 for the same period. Fatalities for last year's first two quarters stood at 13 while this year's deaths are at 19. So why the difference? It's a good question.

Is it connected to employment? We are looking at the numbers of Oregon workers; however because Oregon has the highest unemployment rate in the nation as of July 2002, it does not seem likely that an increase in the number of workers could be the explanation.

Maybe we are just having a bad year. This isn't a good answer. Everyone who goes to work needs to take his or her own safety more seriously. Safety is something over which we do have control. To say it's a bad year would seem to suggest that we have no control. That is not correct.

Safety is a full time job. Each employer is required under the *Occupational Safety and Health Act* to provide a safe and healthful workplace. But employees must also protect themselves. Safety doesn't just happen. It takes management commitment and employee involvement. We must all take an active role.

So what do we do? Slow down. Think. Be careful. Pay attention. There is no job worth dying for. This summer and fall, let's steal a line from Smokey the Bear. Remember, only YOU can prevent workplace fatalities! ■

RESOURCE



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send us a copy of
your publication.*

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City of Portland BES Wastewater Group is a SHARP employer

Oregon OSHA's Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) celebrated a major 'first' on July 24 as the City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services Wastewater Group became the first municipal employer in the state to earn SHARP status. Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman was present to accept the award along with Dean Marriott, Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) director and Steve Behrndt, BES Wastewater manager.

SHARP recognizes employers who make a commitment to improving workplace safety, reducing their injury and illness rates, and developing safe practices that become a model for safe workplaces in Oregon. Safety-and-health-management programs in place at BES created a lost-work injury rate that was 36 percent below the state average in 2000, and 30 percent below the Oregon average during 2001.

"Environmental Services Wastewater Group has developed a safety program that works and works well," said City Commissioner Dan Saltzman. "A safe workplace reduces injuries and illnesses on the job. When we work safely we are not only more effective we also save our ratepayers money. This award is an honor and I know Portland citizens are supportive and appreciative of the Wastewater Group's efforts."

"When you consider the average cost of a serious workplace injury is \$28,000," said Peter De Luca, administrator of Oregon OSHA, "the cost savings and increased productivity are a benefit to the residents of Portland. You can only accomplish this level of injury reduction through careful planning and proactive management."

Credit goes to the BES Wastewater Group managers and staff for designing and implementing a five-year safety-and-health plan at Wastewater Group facilities, with established accountability programs and direct participation by union representatives. The agency went



From Left to Right: Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, Oregon OSHA's Peter De Luca, BES Wastewater Manager Steve Behrndt and members of the BES Wastewater Group accept their SHARP award.

from a 9.6 lost-workday-case-incident rate in 1999 to 4.6 in just one year.

The BES Wastewater Group includes operations at the 133-acre Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant in North Portland and the Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant in Lake Oswego. The agency treats Portland's wastewater, provides storm-water drainage services, and works in Portland watersheds to reduce storm water pollution, restore native vegetation, and improve the quality of water in rivers and streams. The Bureau of Environmental Services owns and operates more than 2,200 miles of pipe and 93 pump stations that transport sewage to the two Portland-area treatment plants. ■

For more information about the SHARP program, please contact Oregon OSHA SHARP manager, Mark Hurliman, (503) 947-7437. For additional information about the Bureau of Environmental Services, call (503) 823-5328. On the Web, you can find out more about the Bureau of Environmental Services at www.cleanrivers-pdx.org and Oregon OSHA at www.orosha.org.

Georgia-Pacific Coos Bay receives VPP Merit Award

More than 100 employees, managers and members of the community were on hand as Georgia-Pacific's Coos Bay sawmill was honored on May 23 by Oregon OSHA for its exceptional safety record and an ongoing commitment to worker safety and health.

Managers and staff of the Coos Bay mill received VPP Merit Award status from the Oregon OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). The Voluntary Protection Program is a national program that encourages companies to voluntarily meet rigorous workplace safety-and-health-management standards to protect workers and reduce injuries, especially in industries with high injury or fatal-incident rates.

"Georgia-Pacific's Coos Bay mill has a lost-workday-injury rate which is 75 percent lower than the industry average for wood products," says Peter De Luca, administrator of Oregon OSHA. "That safety record is accomplished because every person at the mill makes a commitment to working safely."



Pete De Luca presents the VPP Merit Award to Georgia-Pacific Coos Bay plant manager Bill Goodman (GP photo).

A focus on safety at the Coos Bay mill is not an anomaly for Georgia-Pacific; it is a company philosophy throughout its facilities across the United States. "Out of more than eighty thousand employers that Oregon OSHA regulates throughout the state, only six have earned VPP status," says De Luca, "and three of the six are Georgia-Pacific facilities." Across the nation, 23 Georgia-Pacific operations facilities have achieved VPP status.



"Nothing we do is more important than working safely," says James Dallas, Georgia-Pacific President (Lumber Division). "Coos Bay employees are living that concept daily, and they are an example for all of us to follow."

Numbers are used to compute safety-recognition awards, but the effect on the people who work at the Coos Bay mill is more profound. "In human terms, that means four more people who otherwise would have been injured at the Coos Bay mill did NOT miss work last year due to a serious injury," says De Luca. "Ten additional people would have also experienced some sort of workplace injury. Those injuries would not have been prevented without Georgia-Pacific's commitment to safety."

The total rate for all types of worker injuries at the Coos Bay mill is 81 percent below the industry average.

Other VPP sites in Oregon are Kerr McGee Chemical LLC in The Dalles (VPP Star Award), Georgia-Pacific Toledo pulp and paper mill (VPP Star Award), Georgia-Pacific Philomath mill (VPP Star Award), Frito-Lay Beaverton cookie and pretzel plant (VPP Merit Award), and DPR Construction's Lewis & Clark Campus Housing Project (VPP Merit Award). ■

For additional information about the Oregon OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) contact Mark Hurliman, SHARP/VPP manager, (503) 947-7437.

Oregon companies believe in staying SHARP

Workplace-safety-and-health is a major goal of Oregon OSHA. One great way to start down the road to self-sufficiency is the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program, also known as SHARP. SHARP is a recognition program that provides an incentive and road map for Oregon employers and their employees to find and correct hazards, to develop and implement effective safety-and-health programs, to continuously improve, and to become self-sufficient in managing occupational safety and health.

The Oregon SHARP Alliance serves as an advocate for excellence in occupational safety and health, continuous growth of the SHARP program and a positive working relationship with Oregon

OSHA. The SHARP Alliance focuses on promoting SHARP achievement, assisting companies already in the process of becoming SHARP employers, assisting all companies in Oregon in safety and health management, providing input to Oregon OSHA on activities, rules, and strategic planning, and serving as a resource to other members of the Oregon SHARP Alliance.



Serveron Corporation in Hillsboro achieved SHARP status after just fourteen months of operation.



Safety team members of Marvin Wood Products in Baker City show off their four-year record of being a SHARP employer.

Membership in the SHARP Alliance is open to those companies who have received SHARP recognition by Oregon OSHA.

SHARP Alliance meetings:

*September 12, 2002
10 a.m.-noon at Avi BioPharma,
4575 SW Research Way, Suite 200 in Corvallis
Speaker on ergonomics from 1-4 p.m.*

*December 12, 2002, 10 a.m.-noon in Salem
(location to be announced.)*

For additional information about the SHARP Alliance and for updates to meeting times and locations, go to the SHARP Alliance Web site, www.sharpalliance.org.



Look what employers across the state have to say about SHARP.

“Five years ago, our twenty distribution centers were losing millions of dollars every year in workers’ compensation costs. Turnover for employees was averaging 85 to 90 percent. Today Core-Mark’s twenty divisions spend less than \$850,000 and those injuries are much less severe, turnover is down to an average of 50 percent and, in some divisions, around 30 percent a year. It has enabled a small division like Grants Pass to have a positive bottom line in years when sales and merchandise income was not there. The cost is minimal when compared to workers’ compensation injury costs. We are proud to be a part of the SHARP program for the past six years and look forward to moving on to VPP.”

Jack Cooper
*Division Operations Manager
Grants Pass*

“Our relationship with OR-OSHA and the SHARP program is the perfect partnership. Safety is of the utmost importance to our organization, and the SHARP program provides one more tool that we utilize to meet our goals. We are the first vocational service organization to be recognized as an Oregon-SHARP participant for outstanding awareness and employee involvement in safety programs.”

Steve Martin
*Loss Prevention/Safety Manager
Southern Oregon Goodwill Industries
Medford*

“The SHARP program offered by OR-OSHA was one of the best things that ever happened to our safety program at Pioneer Cut Stock. The program created a new sense of teamwork and cooperation. The initial goal was to improve safety. The side effects were increased morale, more production, higher product quality, and less turnover. An atmosphere of pride and accomplishment came to be associated with mentioning SHARP.”

Gerry Gerlach
*Human Resource Manager
Pioneer Cut Stock, Inc.
Prineville*

An advisory for small-business owners: You don't have to pay for the "OSHA Poster"

By Don Harris, AV Librarian,
Oregon OSHA Resource Center

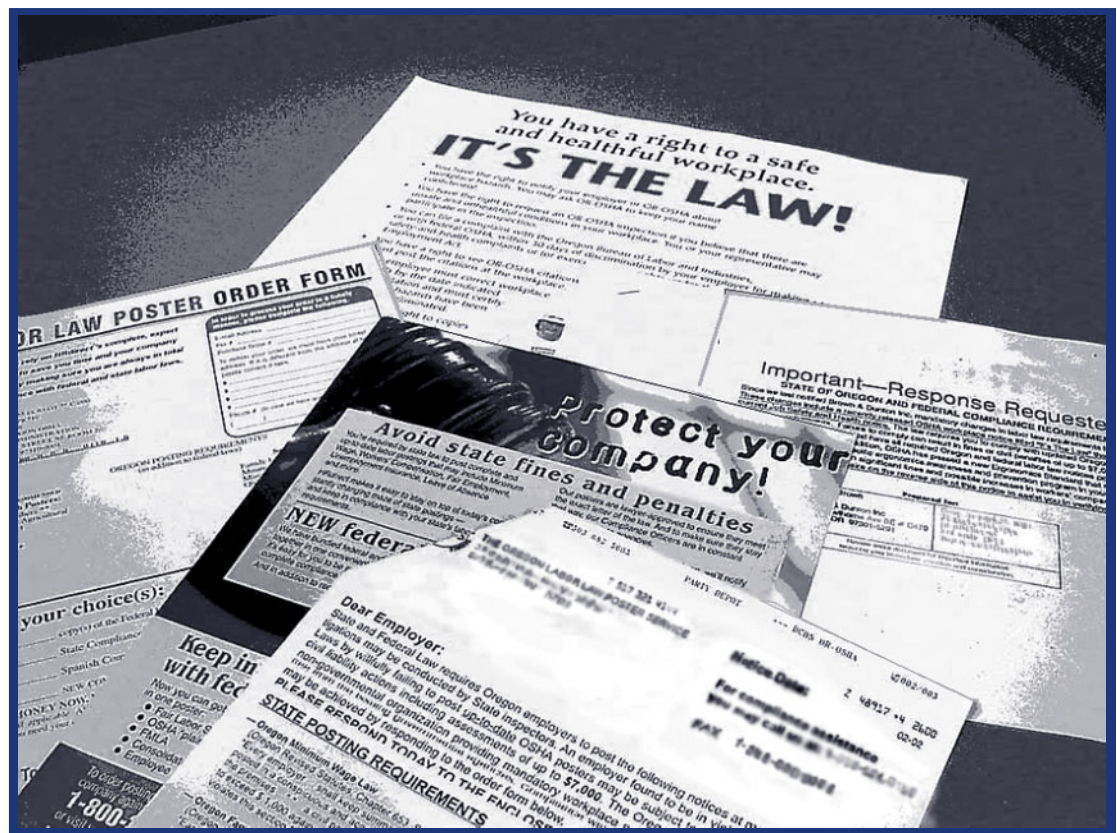
It's just another day of going through the mail where you work. But, in today's mail, you find an official-looking brochure telling you that you're in imminent danger of being fined by OSHA unless you have certain required posters and other items. Fortunately, the brochure continues, these required materials are now available to you "for a reasonable price" – ranging anywhere from \$25 to well over \$100. Or, you may receive an unexpected phone call from a stranger, telling you the same thing. What the brochure or caller, may not tell you is that the same posters and materials may be available at little or no charge from Oregon OSHA, or other state and federal government agencies.

"Our staff, especially those in the Resource Center, talk to five or six business owners every week who ask how much the OR-OSHA required poster and other documents cost," says Kevin Weeks, public information officer for Oregon OSHA. "As you can guess, many customers are not happy to find out they've paid for materials that OR-OSHA provides at no cost."

It pays to contact Oregon OSHA first. The publications listed in our catalog including the 'required poster' are offered to you at no charge whenever possible. Charges for additional copies are based solely on Oregon OSHA's costs for printing and distribution. You are free to make copies of anything listed in our catalog. We also recommend alternate formats, such as our CD-ROM or Web site (www.orosha.org), both of which enable you to generate as many copies as needed.

So, before you reach for that checkbook or credit card, ask yourself if you've got all the facts. Do you really know what you need, and what you don't need? Do you know your source?

If you have any doubt about the answers to these questions, don't spend a dime until you've talked with Oregon OSHA's Resource Center. Saving you the trauma of a workplace illness or injury is our first priority – but we may be able to save you some money as well. ■



SAFETY NOTES

Department of Consumer & Business Services
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division
Salem, OR 97310

Fatality Report

Accident type Fall
Industry Cable installation
Employee job title Cable splicer

Accident description

The cable splicer was attempting to relocate a cable TV service tap to a nearby utility pole in a suburban Portland neighborhood. To gain access to the cable connection terminals, the splicer used an extension hook ladder hung from the overhead cable strand. The ladder was not secured to the cables and became disconnected from the cable strand, causing the splicer to fall to the pavement. The splicer was not wearing a hard-hat at the time of the accident. There were no witnesses to the accident, but shortly after it occurred, a passing motorist noticed the injured worker and alerted neighbors and a construction crew working nearby. Emergency personnel were called to the scene to provide medical attention. The splicer had suffered traumatic head injuries in the fall and died at the scene.



Investigation findings

Investigators determined that the cable splicer was not wearing a hard-hat or a high-visibility vest for working in traffic. Traffic controls were not in place to protect the area where the splicer was working. The worksite had not been evaluated for safety hazards. A safety strap had not connected the ladder to the cable strand. Adequate supervision of the employee at the work site had not been provided by the employer.

Applicable standards

- 29 CFR 1910.268 (e)
- OAR 437-002-0316 (3)(a)
- OAR 437-002-0316 (6)(a)
- OAR 437-001-760 (1)(a)

SAFETY NOTES

Department of Consumer & Business Services
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division
Salem, OR 97310

Fatality Report

Accident type Asphyxiation
Industry Marine research
Employee job title Marine biologist

Description of accident

The marine biologist was working as part of a four-person team diving in the Pacific Ocean just off the Oregon coast. The biologist and a diving partner were working in 50 feet of water when the partner observed that his air supply was running low. The diving partner signaled to the supervisor (the biologist) that he needed to return to the surface. The biologist approved the request and stayed behind to continue working on the ocean floor. The crew aboard the boat was instructed to monitor the air bubble stream from the biologist still working underwater. After six minutes, bubbles ceased rising to the surface and a diver was deployed for rescue. The marine biologist was discovered lying on his back with his mouth-piece beside him. Over ten minutes had elapsed from the last visual contact between the two divers working underwater. The diver was brought to the surface and CPR was performed on the victim immediately. The Coast Guard transported the victim to a hospital on land, where the victim was pronounced dead from an air embolism.



Investigation findings

The employer did not have a system in place to ensure divers did not remain underwater if their air supply was too low. Divers were also allowed to exceed minimum air supply guidelines, and they weren't always in visual contact, as required by Oregon OSHA. The victim was allowed to exceed the maximum recommended dive time.

Investigators determined that the employer did not provide adequate instruction and supervision for employees, and did not follow Professional Association of Diving Instructors standards mandating use of the 'buddy system' when diving.

Applicable standards

OAR 437-01-760 (1)(a)
29 CFR 1910.424 (c)(2)

SEGURIDAD DE ESCALERAS

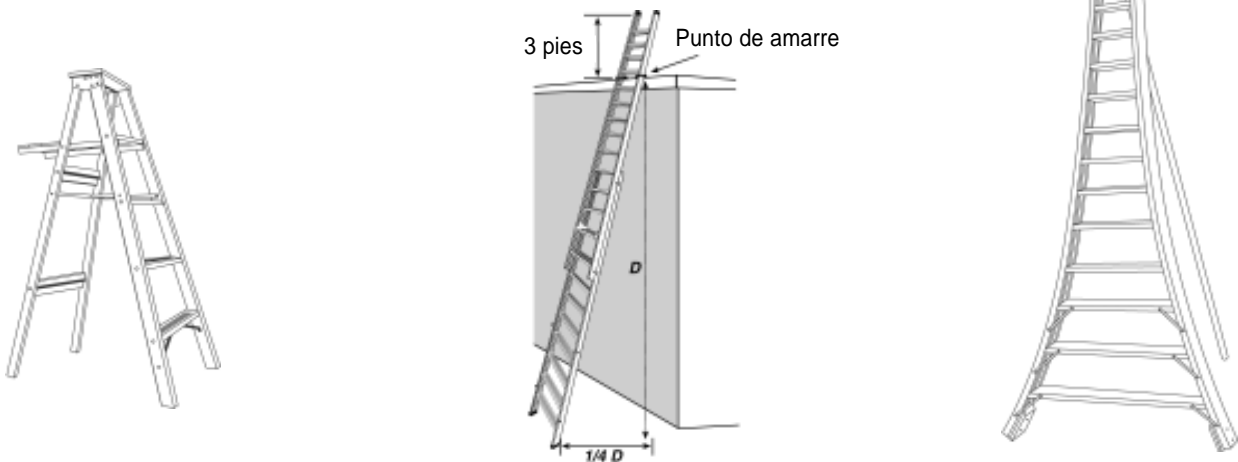


Departamento de Servicios para Consumidores y Negocios
División de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo
Salem, OR 97310

Para mayores informes llame al
(800) 843-8086 (español).

¡La mayoría de trabajadores lesionados en caídas desde escaleras están a menos de 10 pies arriba de la base de la escalera!

- Inspeccione su escalera para juntas apretadas entre los peldaños y largueros, grietas, corrosión, peldaños y largueros rotos y peldaños grasosos o aceitosos.
- Asegúrese que cada escalera tenga patas de seguridad o amarre la escalera para que no se resbale en superficies resbalosas.
- Escaleras de tija deben tener barras de tensión de metal.
- Asegúrese de que las escaleras se extiendan por lo menos 36 pulgadas (3 pies) por encima de la superficie superior. Ver diagrama.
- Verifique la capacidad nominal de la escalera y no la someta a una carga superior a la capacidad nominal.
- Use solamente escaleras de material no conductor cerca de conductos eléctricos.
- Coloque la escalera sobre una superficie sólida y contra un soporte sólido.
- Coloque la base de escaleras sin soporte propio de tal manera que entre la base de la escalera y la pared exista una separación de un pie horizontal por cada cuatro pies de altura (1:4). Ver diagrama.
- Nunca intente aumentar la altura de una escalera colocándola sobre otros objetos, tales como cajas o barriles, ni empalmado dos escaleras entre sí.
- Mantenga las escaleras alejadas de puertas de acceso o pasillos a menos que éstas puedan protegerse con barreras.
- Suba cuidadosamente por la escalera, de frente y utilizando ambas manos. Use un cinturón de herramientas o una cuerda de mano para llevar el material.
- Mantenga su cuerpo centrado. Nunca permita que la hebilla del cinturón salga más allá de cualquiera de los largueros. Si algo se encuentra fuera de su alcance, bájese y mueva la escalera.
- Nunca use las escaleras como plataformas horizontales, pasarelas de acceso ni andamios.



El contenido de esta planilla es una simplificación de las siguientes normas y no se debe pensar que remplazan las normas en sí.

Division 2, General, Subdivision D, Walking/working Surfaces. OAR 437-002-0026.

Division 3, Construction, Subdivision X, Stairways and Ladders. 1926.1053 & OAR 437-003-0065.

Division 4, Agriculture, Subdivision D, Ladders and Scaffolds. OAR 437-004-0340 through 437-004-0370.



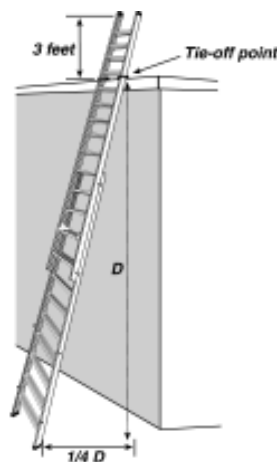
LADDER SAFETY

Department of Consumer & Business Services
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division
Salem, OR 97310

For more information call
(800) 922-2689 (English)

Most workers injured in falls from ladders are less than 10 feet above the ladder's base!

- Inspect your ladder for tight joints between steps and side rails, cracks, rust, broken rungs and rails and oily or greasy rungs.
- Ensure non-slip safety feet on each ladder or, secure ladder to prevent it from sliding on slippery surfaces.
- Step ladders must have a metal spreader bar.
- Extend ladder at least 36 inches (3 feet) above the elevated surface. See diagram.
- Check the ladder's rating and don't subject it to a load greater than its rated capacity.
- Use only non-conductive ladders near electrical conductors.
- Set the ladder on solid footing, against a solid support.
- Place the base of non-self supporting ladders out away from the wall or edge of the upper level one foot for every four feet of vertical height (1:4). See diagram.
- Never increase the height of a ladder by standing it on other objects, such as boxes or barrels, or by splicing two ladders together.
- Keep ladders away from doorways or walkways, unless they can be protected by barriers.
- Climb the ladder carefully, facing it and using both hands. Use a tool belt or hand line to carry materials.
- Keep your body centered. Never let your belt buckle pass beyond either ladder rail. If something is out of reach, get down and move the ladder.
- Never use ladders as sideways platforms, runways or scaffolds.



The contents of this sheet is a simplification of the following and should not be considered a substitute for the actual rule.

Division 2, General, Subdivision D, Walking/working Surfaces. OAR 437-002-0026.

Division 3, Construction, Subdivision X, Stairways and Ladders. 1926.1053 & OAR 437-003-0065.

Division 4, Agriculture, Subdivision D, Ladders and Scaffolds. OAR 437-004-0340 through 437-004-0370.

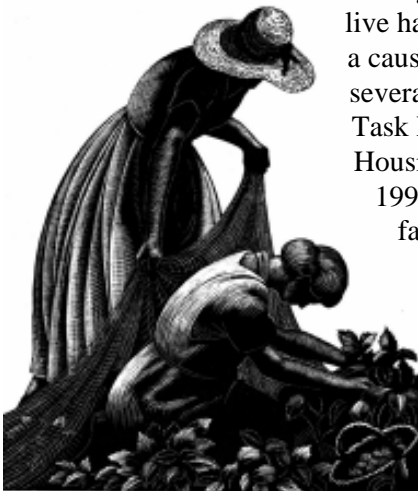
Oregon OSHA enforces safe living standards for agricultural labor housing

Oregon's agricultural workers contribute heavily to the economy of a state deeply rooted in the business of harvesting the produce of our rich soils. Oregon OSHA is employing a number of new strategies this agricultural growing season to ensure that workers and families living in agricultural labor housing around the state are afforded a basic standard of health and safety.

All agricultural-labor-housing providers in Oregon are required to register their dwelling unit with Oregon OSHA. Upon the initial registration of a dwelling, the housing operator must receive a pre-occupancy consultation report from Oregon OSHA. Active labor-housing units are also subject to inspection by Oregon OSHA officers to enforce minimum living standards for occupants. As of August, 322 dwelling units had registered with Oregon OSHA for the 2002 growing season. The majority of registered agricultural labor units are in Hood River and Wasco counties. Registered labor housing units provide shelter and a home to almost 12,000 workers and their families.

If you suspect agricultural labor housing is not registered with Oregon OSHA, please call (800) 922-2689 (toll-free within Oregon) to pass along information. Your information will be kept confidential.

Providing a safe, healthy place for migrant labor families to live has been a challenge and a cause for public concern for several decades. The Interim Task Force on Farmworker Housing, established by the 1999 legislature to address farmworker housing issues, recommended that Oregon OSHA seek unregistered housing operators as an enforcement priority. Oregon



OSHA is dedicating two compliance officers this summer to locate unregistered agricultural labor housing facilities. The compliance officers will use such information as public records, agricultural production data, interviews, and field investigations to help them find unregistered housing. Getting information from community members is one method that compliance officers are counting on.

"Our compliance officers will be attempting to find housing units that are not currently registered," says Nancy Cody, enforcement manager for Oregon OSHA's Salem field office. During the 2002 season, the two officers will be targeting Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Washington, and Clackamas counties for investigation; however, Oregon OSHA will continue to investigate reports of unregistered labor housing throughout Oregon.

Early results indicate that the new enforcement strategy may be working. "As of late July, our compliance officers had identified 56 potential labor housing units in the Willamette Valley for investigative follow-up," says Cody. "Seven people were issued citations for failing to register, which prompted three housing operators to register their housing with Oregon OSHA."

The penalty for failure to register an agricultural labor housing operation has increased from \$2,500 to \$5,000 this year. Ten people were issued citations for failure to register agricultural labor housing during 2001, and 158 agricultural labor housing facilities were inspected by Oregon OSHA in 2001. ■

For additional information about Oregon OSHA's agricultural labor housing enforcement program, please contact the Salem Field Office, (503) 378-3274, or call toll-free in Oregon, (800) 922-2689.



Fall is full of conferences presented by Oregon OSHA and safety partners



September means that the lazy days of summer are over, and it's time to get the kids back to school or focus on work. Oregon OSHA and its safety partners offer a number of opportunities to gain additional training and professional contacts at our fall conferences.

The **Central Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Conference** will be held at Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond September 17-20. The 2002 theme for the annual event is *"Get Hooked on Safety and Health."*

Among many topics set for this year are "Enhancing Your Safety and Health Program," "Emergency Preparedness and Action Plans," and classes that address employee wellness in a changing economy.

The conference lineup includes many training sessions that meet Oregon OSHA mandatory-training requirements for certain industries that require continuing education. The Central Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Conference is presented annually by Oregon OSHA and the Central Oregon Safety and Health Association.

Coming in October is the **Southern Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Conference** in Medford. The conference will be October 23 and 24 at the Smullin Center. The conference will feature nationally recognized keynote speakers Peter and Susan Glasser.

"There is a very strong track of the conference devoted to the health care industry," says Laveryne Gray of Oregon OSHA's Conferences Section. "There will be classes about how over-the-counter drugs can affect your clients and how to handle bloodborne pathogens protection with the advances in needle technology that have occurred within the past few years," says Gray. The Southern Oregon Conference is a co-production of Oregon OSHA and Southern Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers.

Safety & Health Make Good Sense

12th Annual

**SOUTHERN OREGON
OCCUPATIONAL
SAFETY & HEALTH
CONFERENCE**



Rounding out the conference schedule for 2002 is the **Western Pulp and Paper Workers Safety and Health Conference** at Portland's Doubletree Jantzen Beach Hotel, December 3-6. This year's conference is the twelfth for the event, which grew from a day-long meeting in 1990 to the West's largest safety conference dedicated to the pulp and paper industry. Sessions will cover topics such as safety-committee effectiveness, road rage and railroad safety, and general security with an emphasis on emergency preparedness. More than 40 exhibitors will offer demonstrations and introduce their services. The conference is a partnership between Oregon OSHA, the Oregon-Idaho Pulp and Paper Workers Council of the Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, PACE, the Labor Education Research Center, the Center for Research on Occupational and

Environmental Toxicology at OHSU, Washington Safety Council of the Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers and the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act. ■

For more information about the conferences, including classes and registration fees, call Oregon OSHA's Conference Section, (503) 378-3272 or (888) 292-5247 option one, or visit the Conferences Web page at www.oroSHA.org.



Cheryl Mushaney Administrative Assistant Consultation and Services Section Oregon OSHA

By Kevin Weeks
Public Information Officer
Administrative Section
Oregon OSHA



Cheryl Mushaney, with three people she'll miss working with: (Left-Right) Sharell McMurray, Melissa Ruettgers and Cheryl Lukl-Fulk.

There seems to be one person in every business who knows where everything is, and who to talk to, to get the answer for your question. To the “new kid on the block” he or she is invaluable. At Oregon OSHA’s Central Office in Salem, in the Consultation and Services Section, that person is Cheryl Mushaney. But not for much longer. Mushaney concludes a 21-plus-year career in the Labor and Industries Building on Halloween. Many have come to know Cheryl’s name from her support to the Consultation, VPP, and SHARP programs or from the “Profiles” she has authored for several years in *Oregon Safety and Health Resource*.

The Oregon native grew up in Canby, training for a career in cosmetology. But after a number of years in the beauty business, she realized it was time for a change. After raising four children and getting them off to school, Mushaney herself started classes at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, where she came across job opportunities with the state. Mushaney began working for the Workers Compensation Division in 1981 and moved into Oregon OSHA in 1991 when the agency brought its word-processing systems in-house. She has provided support to Consultation and Services for 10 years.

The major pursuit for Mushaney in retirement will be spending time focusing on the little things in life such as touring museums, enjoying out-of-the-way restaurants, and finding the elusive fish, with the help of her husband of 32 years, Ray. Somehow most topics that involve Mushaney find a way back to talking about fishing.

“She is the ultimate in booth schmoozing,” says Cory Stengel, Senior Occupational Health Consultant in Oregon OSHA’s Bend field office. “Cheryl has the uncanny ability to give out literature and turn any discussion about safety and health into a fishing

story or getting directions to the ultimate fishing hole. Because of her technique of selling the program, a number of the stakeholders I work with ask how Cheryl is and where her next fishing adventure is going to be.”

“Oregon OSHA has a wonderful group of people,” says Mushaney. “They believe in what they do, they are very loyal to each other, and I think it says something that a number of people leave Oregon OSHA by retiring out. They want to be here every day. I will miss the people dearly.”

But don’t expect Mushaney to be gone for good after October 31. Mushaney plans on helping out the agency periodically, providing relief work during vacation times and when people are out due to illness. The tradition of the Second Thursday lunch in the office will also continue, which Mushaney hopes will keep her in touch with her friends at Oregon OSHA. ■

Workplace preparedness: expecting the unexpected

A recent survey of Oregon residents commissioned by the American Red Cross, Oregon Emergency Management, and SAFECO Insurance discovered that of the 744 Oregon households sampled, fewer than half had done any disaster-preparedness planning, despite one-third of the sample group having experienced some form of disaster.

Chances are high that a disaster may strike while you are working. Preparing for workplace emergencies can save lives and valuable time when a crisis occurs. Oregon OSHA has developed a new guide to help employers plan for emergencies, *Expecting the Unexpected: What to consider in planning for workplace emergencies*. Watch for more information about the guide this fall on the Oregon OSHA Web site, www.orosha.org.

Workers' Memorial Scholarship awarded

Natasha Whitaker of Monmouth has been awarded the 2002 Workers' Memorial Scholarship by Oregon OSHA. She is a recent graduate of Central High School in Independence with a 4.0 GPA. Whitaker impressed scholarship judges with her description of finding out in kindergarten that not everybody's father was in a wheelchair. A wheelchair has been a part of daily life for Natasha's father after he survived a near-fatal logging injury in 1974. Whitaker says she developed a positive attitude about safety while working at Oregon State University's Dairy Center last summer.

"Knowing what my father went through has made me more cautious at work," says Whitaker, "and I felt safer working in the dairy knowing that safety precautions are in place." Whitaker will be studying animal science when she begins her freshman year at Oregon State University this fall.

Oregon OSHA presents annual scholarships to assist in the post-secondary education of spouses or children of permanently disabled or fatally injured workers. The Workers' Memorial Scholarship was established by the 1991 Legislature at the request of the Oregon AFL-CIO with support from Associated Oregon Industries.

Oregon attempting to find unclaimed property holders

The Trust Property Section of the Division of State Lands will hold free educational seminars this fall to help businesses, governments, and organizations holding unclaimed property learn about new laws and how to take advantage of an amnesty period granted by the 2001 Legislature.

Information sessions are scheduled as follows:

Pendleton: September 9, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Oxford Suites, 2400 SW Court Place (Exit 209 from Interstate 84).

Baker City: September 10, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Best Western Sunridge Inn (Exit 304 from Interstate 84).

Klamath Falls: September 17, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Klamath Falls Shilo Inn.

Bend: September 18, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Riverhouse Resort (3075 North Highway 97).

Sessions are also scheduled in Portland on September 25 and Salem on September 30. Locations for these sessions will be announced on the Division of State Lands Web site, statelands.dsl.state.or.us/upholdered.htm. Call (503) 378-3809, for more information.

STEP up to SHARP



Fifth-Year Recipients

- **Co-Gen**, Prairie City
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Core-Mark International Inc.**, Grants Pass
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Prairie Wood Products**, Prairie City
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **R&H Construction**, Portland
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Weyerhaeuser Company**, Coos Bay Timberlands
(SHARP Alliance member)

Fourth-Year Recipients

- **Barrett Business Services**, Bend
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Barrett Business Services**, Kelly Street Branch,
Portland (SHARP Alliance member)
- **Douglas Electric Cooperative**, Roseburg
- **Lane Electric Cooperative, Inc.**, Eugene
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Louisiana-Pacific, Engineered Wood Products**
(LP Hines)
- **Marvin Wood Products**, Baker City
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Oregon Department of Transportation**,
Bend Equipment Shop
- **Oregon Department of Transportation**,
Salem Repair Facility
- **Pioneer Cut Stock, Prineville**
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Pendleton Woolen Mills**, Pendleton
- **Precision Interconnect**, Wilsonville
- **Quest Diagnostics Incorporated**, Portland
- **Timber Products**, Medford Particleboard Division
- **Yorke & Curtis, Inc.**, General Contractors, Beaverton
(SHARP Alliance member)

Third-Year Recipients

- **AVI BioPharma**, Corvallis
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Barrett Business Services**, Eugene
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Bear Creek Valley Sanitary Authority**, Medford
- **Blachly Lane Electrical Cooperative**, Eugene
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Commercial Vehicle Systems, Inc.**
(formerly Sprague Controls), Canby
- **Future Forest Company**,
formerly Kerry Clark Company, Myrtle Creek
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Graphic Arts Center, Inc.**, Portland
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **PG&E National Energy Group**,
Hermiston Generating Plant
- **Lebanon Community Hospital**
- **MasterBrand Cabinets**,
formerly Schrock Cabinet Company, Grants Pass
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Orkot Incorporated**, Eugene
- **Salem Electric**,
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Southern Oregon Goodwill Industries**, Medford
- **Timber Products**, Spectrum Division, White City
- **Timber Products Company**, White City Plywood
Division
- **Wacker Siltronic Corporation**, Portland
- **Weyerhaeuser**, Beaverton Recycling Center
- **Weyerhaeuser**, Eugene Distribution Center

See "SHARP Awards Recipients" page 18

Second-Year Recipients

- **Duro-Last Roofing, Inc.**, Grants Pass
- **Emerick Construction Company**, Portland
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Milgard Manufacturing**, Wilsonville
- **Oregon Department of Transportation**,
Heppner and Spray Maintenance Stations
- **Oregon Department of Transportation**, LaGrande
Equipment Repair Shop
- **PED Manufacturing, Ltd.**, Oregon City
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **QPM Aerospace**, Portland
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Roseburg Forest Products**, Coquille
- **Selectemp**, Springfield
- **Snake River Correctional Institution**, Ontario
- **Timber Products (TP) Trucking**, Central Point
- **Two Rivers Correctional Institution**, Umatilla
- **Western Pulp Products Company**, Corvallis
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Weyerhaeuser**, Cottage Grove Lumber Operations,
(SHARP Alliance member)
- **Weyerhaeuser Company - Containerboard
Packaging**, Portland
- **Weyerhaeuser**, Beaverton Customer Service Center
- **Weyerhaeuser Company, Western Timberlands
TOPS Operations**, Springfield

First-Year Recipients

- **Astoria Golf and Country Club**
- **Barrett Business Services, Inc. - Roseburg Branch**
- **C. Duke Aldridge, D.D.S.**, Bend
- **Bon Appetit Management Company**, Portland
- **Douglas County Forest Products**, Winchester
- **Full Sail Brewery**, Hood River
- **Grant Western Lumber Company**, John Day
- **Jeld-Wen of Oregon, Moulding Millwork Division**,
Klamath Falls Plant
- **Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, White River
Wildlife Management Unit**, Tygh Valley
- **Portland General Electric (PGE)**,
Boardman Coal Plant
- **City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services
- Wastewater Group**
- **Portland General Electric (PGE), Coyote Springs
Power Generating Facility**, Boardman
- **PG&E National Energy Group, Gas Transmission
Northwest**, Portland
- **Powder Coat Specialties**, Tualatin
- **Serveron Corporation**, Hillsboro
- **The Stanley Works, Hydraulic Tools Product
Group**, Milwaukie
- **SUNTRON Northwest Operations**, Newberg
- **Wayne's Garage**, Eugene
- **Weyerhaeuser Company**, Springfield Timberlands
- **Weyerhaeuser Company**, Wilbur Pole Facility
- **Weyerhaeuser's Trus Joist**, Junction City Plant
- **Wiley Creek Community Living Center**,
Sweet Home

The OR-OSHA Resource Center and Audiovisual Library

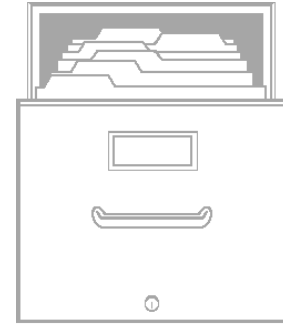
A RESOURCE FOR PROMOTING
HEALTH & SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE



Don Harris' column was not available at press time due to illness. Don will return in the December RESOURCE.

For a free copy of the 2001 AV Catalog, call (503) 378-3272 or visit our Web site, www.orosha.org under "Publications."

Let's hear (and read) your success stories!



We're proud to offer you the latest information and safety topics every quarter in the *Oregon Health and Safety Resource*. But we realize we're missing something: **you!**

The best way to know that the safety and health ideas you read about in *Resource* are working is to read how you or your company has implemented safety-and-health improvements in your workplace. Sharing success stories or 'news you can use' helps improve overall workplace safety in Oregon. It is also a great opportunity to showcase your business before potential customers and peers in your industry.

*Articles should be less than 500 words; they are subject to editing for style and story content. For more information or to discuss story ideas, contact **Oregon Safety and Health Resource** editor, Kevin Weeks, (503) 947-7428, or send e-mail to kevin.s.weeks@state.or.us.*

RESOURCE

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