



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor



Department of Consumer
and Business Services

OSHSPA State Plan Report Renée Stapleton, Administrator

OSHSPA members meeting 9/17/2024

I. Significant Legislative/Programmatic Changes

Legislatively Mandated Rulemaking: None

Legislative Activity: Oregon OSHA will be presenting a legislative concept to the Oregon Legislature in the 2025 regular session regarding the protection of identifying information of those interviewed during an inspection in response to a FAME observation that was raised for multiple years.

Other Rulemaking Activity: Oregon OSHA proposed [Comprehensive Amendments to Agricultural Labor Housing and Related Facilities](#). The proposed rule changes would substantially raise the protective standards for indoor and outdoor facilities that employers must include when they provide housing; public hearings are scheduled for mid-October 2024 and the public comment period is open through November 3, 2024. In addition, Oregon OSHA is preparing to adopt minor corrections in federal and Oregon OSHA rules, which include correcting amendments in [2019-27114](#) and [2020-00207](#) to federal standards; the agency did not receive comment on the proposed changes during the public comment period. Oregon OSHA is also preparing to propose the adoption of federal OSHA's changes to the [Hazard Communication Standard](#).

II. New Developments/Activities/Notable Cases Activities:

Oregon OSHA News Releases:

- [2025 Oregon GOSH Conference invites award nominations of those who go above and beyond to help keep workplaces safe and healthy](#)
- [Southern Oregon hosting workplace safety and health conference Oct. 15-17](#)
- [Oregon OSHA to present Spanish-language safety conference informing workers of their safety rights, protections against hazards, and more](#)
- [Medford roofing contractor fined \\$103,438 for repeatedly exposing workers to fall hazards](#)
- [Oregon OSHA to propose comprehensive package of enhancements for employer-provided housing](#)
- [Supplier of roofing materials to Salem job site fined \\$92,226 for repeatedly exposing workers to fall hazards](#)
- [Workplace safety conference in Bend offers opportunities to improve skills in fire safety, accident prevention, employee involvement, and more](#)
- [As temperatures rise, Oregon OSHA reminds employers to protect workers from the potential dangers of heat illness](#)

- [Save the date for the March 3-6, 2025, Oregon GOSH Conference, the Pacific Northwest's largest workplace safety and health conference](#)
- [Grants Pass company fined \\$86,149 for job safety violations, including repeatedly exposing workers to fall hazards](#)
- [Six Oregon high schools win prizes in media contest to promote young worker safety](#)
- [Workers Memorial Day ceremony honors Oregon workers who died on the job in 2023](#)

Newsletters:

Oregon OSHA published the [July 2024 Issue of its Health and Safety Resource newsletter](#)

- The cruelest month for heat and wildfire is upon us
- Oregon OSHA wildfire smoke rule as protective as it ever was
- New and updated publications offer key safety, health information
- Oregon OSHA's requirements for catch platforms: everything you need to know
- What your safety committee needs to know about conducting workplace inspections
- Employers across Oregon celebrate safety stand-down
- Oregon workers who died on the job in 2023 honored
- Incident Alert: Unstable plywood storage cart

Oregon OSHA Conferences Update:

- Region X Voluntary Protection Program Participants' Association (VPPPA), May 14-16, 2024, Anchorage, AK
- Oregon Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP), June 3-4, 2024, Pendleton, OR

Notable Case:

Oregon OSHA fined Good Clean Fun, a residential and commercial exterior cleaning company based in Medford, more than \$20,000 for three violations, including a violation for failing to protect a 29-year-old employee who died after falling from the roof of an apartment building.

How the incident happened

After a short meeting with the business owner at 8 a.m., two employees drove a company truck to the multi-story apartment building, surveyed the property, and reviewed their assignments. It was about 45 degrees and raining heavily. Around 9 a.m. the two employees decided that one would begin cleaning the gutters on the second-story roof and the other would clean the gutters on the first-story roof. One employee set up a 28-foot ladder and climbed it to the second-story roof to install roof anchors for the employer-provided personal fall protection system. The 29-year-old victim climbed another ladder to a recessed part of the first-story roof above the front entry door of one of the ground floor units. After about 10 minutes, the employee on the second-story roof heard the sound of equipment striking the ladder that the victim used to climb to the first-story roof. When he turned around and looked down he saw the victim lying motionless on the ground. He immediately descended his ladder and called 911. Responders rushed the victim to a nearby hospital where he died about 31 hours later.

The compliance officer's findings

The victim was not protected from falling four feet or more to a lower level. (Oregon OSHA's [general industry walking-working surfaces rules](#) require each employee on a walking-working surface with an unprotected side or edge 4 feet or more above a lower level to be protected from falling.)

- The victim fell 8 feet, 3 inches, to a concrete pathway.
- The victim had suffered from seizures, and likely had a seizure while on the roof. Had fall protection been utilized, a seizure would not likely have been fatal.
- The lack of fall protection likely caused or contributed to the victim's death, which resulted in Oregon OSHA's newly established 'caused or contributed' penalty structure to be triggered. This type of violation requires a comprehensive inspection to be conducted within 12 months of the closing conference
- A fall protection anchor could have been installed on the second-story roof and, with the addition of fall protection equipment such as a rope lifeline and properly adjusted rope grab connector, could have provided an anchor for the victim while he was working on the recessed first-story roof.

Good Clean Fun did not provide effective fall protection training to the victim, who was exposed to fall hazards greater than four feet above a lower level.

- The victim demonstrated a lack of effective fall protection training by not using any fall protection system when he was working on a first story roof, four feet or more above a lower level.
- The owner of Good Clean Fun did not know the height at which general-industry employees are required to use fall protection. He said that he and his employees never wear fall protection on a single story roof unless the pitch was steep and ground conditions such as rocks were present.

Good Clean Fun had personal fall protection equipment available for the two employees but did not ensure that the employees used it.

Good Clean Fun failed to report an in-patient hospitalization to Oregon OSHA within 24 hours.

Good Clean Fun had not been inspected by Oregon OSHA before the incident and the owner was not aware of the reporting requirement; he learned about the requirement only after notifying his workers' compensation carrier about the incident. The workers' compensation carrier told the owner to contact Oregon OSHA immediately, which he did.



Where the victim fell while he was cleaning gutters on the first-story roof. (OTIS: Image 0816)

[Oregon OSHA Online Training Resources](#)

Online Courses:

Confined Space Safety (English)

Launched in June 2024, this new online course includes 5 modules. The course focuses on explaining the hazards of confined space work, the history of Oregon OSHA's rules, and the requirements for safely working within confined spaces. It is designed for employers and employees as they work toward improving their workplace safety. To enhance the course, our team produced a new 14-minute video, [Practicing Confined Space Rescues](#). We will formally launch the Spanish version of the course and video soon!

Oregon OSHA Public Education Activity:

Social Media Activity (English and Spanish combined)

Since its inception the Oregon OSHA YouTube Channel has amassed 5.1M views on [YouTube](#) and there are a total of 383 videos available. Between April 1, 2024 and June 30, 2024, videos on Facebook received 3,565 views; videos on Vimeo received 153,321 views; and LinkedIn gained 149 followers with 27 posts added.

Video Resources

Practicing Confined Space Rescues (English)

Our newest video production, [Practicing Confined Space Rescues](#), was filmed at an Oregon wastewater treatment plant showcasing their practice of a confined space rescue. This 14-minute video is also featured in our new Confined Space Safety online course.

Compressed Gas Video (Spanish)

The Spanish version of the video [Compressed Gas Rule Review was made available in June 2024](#). The English version was previously launched in 2022, and features Tom Meier, a retired Oregon OSHA safety professional, explaining safe handling practices for compressed gas.

PowerPoints for Online Courses

A PowerPoint presentation download is a newer feature for instructors that Public Education includes with all online courses. We have added this tool in English for the new *Confined Space Safety* online course.

Public Education Newsletter

The Public Education team sends a quarterly newsletter via email to subscribers through GovDelivery. There are approximately 30K email subscribers. The newsletter features Public Education's newest resource(s) along with information about our available education and training resources and webpages.

III. Areas of Concern: None

IV. Information Sought from Other State Programs: None

V. Administrative Changes: None

VI. Contact Information:

Internet: <https://osha.oregon.gov>, Phone: 503-378-3272, Fax: 503-947-7461,
Federal Liaison: Jenny Downen, Jennifer.A.Downen@dcbs.oregon.gov