# The Gold Coast Safety Times

*The Newsletter of the American Society of Safety Engineers*  
*Gold Coast Chapter*

## July - September 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSIDE THIS ISSUE</th>
<th>UPCOMING CHAPER EVENTS and MEETINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upcoming Events .................... 1</td>
<td>Our next meeting will be in September and will kick off the new Chapter year. Keep an eye on our website for date and topic!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidents Message ................. 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSE Live Webinars ................ 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter Safety Topic ........... 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Government Update .......... 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter News ........................ 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upcoming meetings:**  
Sept. – Date & time TBD  
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If you have an idea for a newsletter topic or would like to submit an article please contact Kathleen Clair at katieclair@yahoo.com

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*The Gold Coast Safety Times* is published periodically to members of the ASSE Gold Coast Chapter. This newsletter is compiled by the Chapter Secretary based upon contributions from members. To make a contribution to the newsletter or for questions, comments or additional information, contact Kathleen Clair at katieclair@yahoo.com

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www.goldcoast.asse.org

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Page 1
President’s Message

Our 2014 – 2015 Chapter year has officially come to an end. Special thanks go to all of you who either participated in leadership or attended meetings on a regular basis. Without you our Chapter would not continue to exist. In the coming year, I look forward to working with you to make our Chapter even stronger.

Although we continue to have all essential board positions filled, we still have many opportunities for you to get involved. There is no better way to give back to our profession than supporting your local Chapter with your time and talents. If you have any interest in serving, please let me know.

Our 2015 – 2016 meeting schedule will be announced very soon with our first meeting taking place in September. I hope to see you there. If you have any suggestions for speakers and/or topics of interest, please let us know. In the meantime, please visit our website for updated information at: www.goldcoast.asse.org

If I can be of service to you or you have any comments or suggestions, do not hesitate to call or email me.

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ASSE LIVE WEBINARS

ANSI/ASSE A10.47, Work Zone Safety for Highway Construction, Gets an Overhaul
Includes a Live Event on on 07/08/2015 at 12:00 PM (EDT)
NEWSLETTER SAFETY TOPIC

Confined spaces rule could protect nearly 800 construction workers a year from serious injuries and reduce life-threatening hazards

Construction protections now match those in manufacturing and general industry

WASHINGTON – The Occupational Safety and Health Administration today issued a final rule to increase protections for construction workers in confined spaces.

Manholes, crawl spaces, tanks and other confined spaces are not intended for continuous occupancy. They are also difficult to exit in an emergency. People working in confined spaces face life-threatening hazards including toxic substances, electrocutions, explosions and asphyxiation.

Last year, two workers were asphyxiated while repairing leaks in a manhole, the second when he went down to save the first – which is not uncommon in cases of asphyxiation in confined spaces.

“In the construction industry, entering confined spaces is often necessary, but fatalities like these don’t have to happen,” said Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez. “This new rule will
significantly improve the safety of construction workers who enter confined spaces. In fact, we estimate that it will prevent about 780 serious injuries every year.”

The rule will provide construction workers with protections similar to those manufacturing and general industry workers have had for more than two decades, with some differences tailored to the construction industry. These include requirements to ensure that multiple employers share vital safety information and to continuously monitor hazards – a safety option made possible by technological advances after the manufacturing and general industry standards were created.

“This rule will save lives of construction workers,” said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. “Unlike most general industry worksites, construction sites are continually evolving, with the number and characteristics of confined spaces changing as work progresses. This rule emphasizes training, continuous worksite evaluation and communication requirements to further protect workers’ safety and health.”

Compliance assistance material and additional information is available on OSHA’s Confined Spaces in Construction Web page.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA’s role is to ensure these conditions for America’s working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov

Many Roles, One Goal - Building Safety Together

WCI

The 70th Annual Workers’ Compensation Educational Conference and 27th Annual Safety & Health Conference

August 23 - 26, 2015

The Orlando World Center Marriott
EPA Awards more than $3.9 Million in Brownfields Grants to Assess and Clean Up Contaminated Sites and Revitalize Communities in Florida / Winners include: Cocoa, Jacksonville, Live Oak, Manatee County, Opa-locka, Palatka, Pasco, Sanford, and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council

ATLANTA – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today the selection of nine communities in Florida to receive more than $3.9 million in grant investments. This investment will provide communities with funding necessary to assess, clean and redevelop contaminated properties, boost local economies and leverage jobs while protecting public health and the environment.

EPA's Brownfields grants provide resources early which is critical for the success of communities’ ability to leverage additional partnerships and resources. The community leaders - represented by local governments, states, tribes, quasi-governmental organizations, and non-profit entities have demonstrated strong partnerships and plan to leverage the EPA grants with other public-private investments. They use an inclusive process to help spur the redevelopment of vacant, former manufacturing and commercial sites for broader revitalization in their downtowns. This results in a transformed economy and environment while addressing poverty and economic distress.

"Brownfield sites - because of their locations and associated infrastructure advantages - are community assets and a key component of the Obama Administration’s efforts to provide tools to sustainably revitalize communities and foster economic development,” said Mathy Stanislaus, assistant administrator for EPA’s Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. “These communities have demonstrated a plan to leverage their grants and partnerships to achieve economic and environmental revitalization to meet their needs for jobs. These critical EPA resources are going into communities with populations ranging from 89 to 1.4 million, and more than half under 100,000. The grants will help transform brownfield sites, such as former manufacturing and mill sites, into productive end uses which directly benefit community residents and create opportunities including increased housing options, recreational spaces, and jobs.”

The Florida Brownfield recipients are:

- City of Cocoa, Fla. ($200,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 for assessment grant petroleum)
- City of Jacksonville, Fla. ($200,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum)
- City of Live Oak, Fla. ($200,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum)
- Manatee County, Fla. ($300,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum)
- City of Opa-locka, Fla. ($200,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum)
- City of Palatka, Fla. ($200,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum)
- City of Pasco, Fla. ($200,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances, $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum and $195,000 cleanup grant for hazardous substances)
- City of Sanford, Fla. ($200,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum)
- Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, Fla. ($300,000 assessment grant for hazardous substances and $200,000 assessment grant for petroleum)

Among the communities selected for funding, more than thirty percent have been affected by plant closures, forty percent by significant economic disruptions, and forty-two percent by adverse natural disasters. The small City of Palatka, Florida for example, was declared an emergency area following the devastation of two tropical storms, and has also suffered economically from the closing of Georgia-Pacific paper towel manufacturing line and the lay-off of 130 employees from the regional water management company. Being selected for a $400,000 assessment grant will allow this town of just over 10,000 residents to support their downtown and riverfront redevelopment plans and help restore the local economy.

This latest funding advances EPA’s broader commitment to making a visible difference in communities that focuses on better coordinating federal investments to help environmentally overburdened, underserved, and economically distressed communities address local priorities. Communities selected this year demonstrate a high level of preparedness to undertake specific projects as they have firm commitments of leveraged funds to move projects forward. An impressive forty-five percent of the recipients have secured public and private resources which directly align and further the efforts of proposed projects.

Nationally, 147 communities across the U.S were selected to receive 243 new grant investments totaling $54.3 million. Recipients will each receive approximately $200,000 - $600,000 in funding toward EPA cooperative agreements. EPA’s grant awards support both urban and rural communities in their efforts to address their brownfields concerns. More than fifty-five percent of the communities selected are cities and towns with populations of 100,000 or less, of which forty-four percent are very small rural
communities with populations of 10,000 or less.

Since the inception of the EPA’s Brownfields Program in 1995, cumulative brownfield program investments have leveraged more than $22 billion from a variety of public and private sources for cleanup and redevelopment activities. This equates to an average of $17.79 leveraged per EPA brownfield dollar expended. These investments have resulted in approximately 105,942 jobs nationwide. EPA’s Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields sites.

For information on brownfields grants by state: http://cfpub.epa.gov/bf_factsheets/

More information on EPA’s brownfields program: http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/


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CHAPTER NEWS

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Jesse Hernandez

Marsha Brazle

John Mulkern