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

October - December 2016

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Our next Gold Coast Chapter meeting will be held on October 27th at 9 am.

Topic: Sunshine 811 (Safety when Working near Underground Utilities)

Visit our website for details. We hope to see you there!
http://goldcoast.asse.org/

November 17th Meeting will discuss Fall Protection – Save the date!

Did you know you can now register for our meetings online? Simply go to http://goldcoast.asse.org/event/, click “more info.” and then “register”.

Join us on Facebook for updates and other safety related news

Check us out on the web at:
www.goldcoast.asse.org

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

Dear Gold Coast Members –

As I have mentioned before, this is an exciting time to be President of The Gold Coast Chapter of ASSE. With the upgrades to the website such as event registration, the new design and the ease of input to the site content we can keep all members informed of upcoming events, changes in the schedule and new improvements that are taking place.

At this point I would like to express appreciation for the previous chapter representatives for all the hard work it has taken to build the Gold Coast Chapter. We will continue to supply quality speakers to increase knowledge and awareness to our members.

The executive committee has decided to have a meeting on November 17th to start the holiday season. There will be a constant effort to attract new membership so we can share in the excitement and help build the future of this chapter. These meetings are an opportunity to frequently meet with our peers and discuss important issues and solutions as continuing priorities of the ASSE. Networking, sharing of best practices, continuing education, promoting the profession and education are some of the tools available to us and I look forward to seeing all of you at the next chapter meeting on October 27th.

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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Forklift Train the Trainer Course

October 26th 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

Become a certified instructor with the ability to certify your own employees to operate a forklift. Members $499.00 Non-Members $599.00

Call 561-845-8233 to register.
NEWSLETTER SAFETY TOPIC

Key Facts about Seasonal Flu Vaccine

Flu Vaccination

Why should people get vaccinated against the flu?

Influenza is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and sometimes even death. Every flu season is different, and influenza infection can affect people differently. Even healthy people can get very sick from the flu and spread it to others. Over a period of 31 seasons between 1976 and 2007, estimates of flu-associated deaths (http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/us_flu-related_deaths.htm) in the United States range from a low of about 3,000 to a high of about 49,000 people. During recent flu seasons, between 80% and 90% of flu-related deaths have occurred in people 65 years and older. "Flu season" in the United States can begin as early as October and last as late as May. During this time, flu viruses are circulating at higher levels in the U.S. population. An annual seasonal flu vaccine (either the flu shot or the nasal spray flu vaccine) is the best way to reduce the chances that you will get seasonal flu and spread it to others. When more people get vaccinated against the flu, less flu can spread through that community.

How do flu vaccines work?

Flu vaccines cause antibodies to develop in the body about two weeks after vaccination. These antibodies provide protection against infection with the viruses that are in the vaccine.

The seasonal flu vaccine protects against the influenza viruses that research indicates will be most common during the upcoming season. Traditional flu vaccines (called "trivalent" vaccines) are made to protect against three flu viruses; an influenza A (H1N1) virus, an influenza A (H3N2) virus, and an influenza B virus. There are also flu vaccines made to protect against four flu viruses (called "quadrivalent" vaccines). These vaccines protect against the same viruses as the trivalent vaccine and an additional B virus.
What kinds of flu vaccines are available?

CDC recommends use of injectable influenza vaccines (including inactivated influenza vaccines and recombinant influenza vaccines) during 2016-2017. The nasal spray flu vaccine (live attenuated influenza vaccine or LAIV) should not be used during 2016-2017.

Both trivalent (three-component) and quadrivalent (four-component) flu vaccines will be available.

Trivalent flu vaccines include:

- Standard-dose trivalent shots (IIV3) that are manufactured using virus grown in eggs. Different flu shots are approved for different age groups. Most flu shots are given in the arm (muscle) with a needle. One trivalent vaccine formulation can be given with a jet injector, for persons aged 18 through 64 years.
- A high-dose trivalent shot, approved for people 65 and older.
- A recombinant trivalent shot that is egg-free, approved for people 18 years and older.
- A trivalent flu shot made with adjuvant (an ingredient of a vaccine that helps create a stronger immune response in the patient’s body), approved for people 65 years of age and older (new this season).

Quadrivalent flu vaccines include:

- Quadrivalent flu shots approved for use in different age groups.
- An intradermal quadrivalent flu shot, which is injected into the skin instead of the muscle and uses a much smaller needle than the regular flu shot. It is approved for people 18 through 64 years of age.
- A quadrivalent flu shot containing virus grown in cell culture, which is approved for people 4 years of age and older (new this season).

Are any of the available flu vaccines recommended over others?

For the 2016-2017 flu season, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) (http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/index.html) recommends annual influenza vaccination for everyone 6 months and older with either the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) or the recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV). The nasal spray flu vaccine (live attenuated influenza vaccine or LAIV) should not be used during 2016-2017. There is no preference for one vaccine over another among the recommended, approved injectable influenza vaccines. There are many vaccine options (http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/rr/rr6505a1.htm#T1_down) to choose from, but the most important thing is for all people 6 months and older to get a flu vaccine every year. If you have questions about which vaccine is best for you, talk to your doctor or other health care professional.
Who should get vaccinated this season?

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get a flu vaccine every season. This recommendation has been in place since February 24, 2010 when CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted for “universal” flu vaccination in the United States to expand protection against the flu to more people.

Vaccination to prevent influenza is particularly important for people who are at high risk of serious complications from influenza. See People at High Risk of Developing Flu-Related Complications for a full list of age and health factors that confer increased risk.

More information is available at Who Should Get Vaccinated Against Influenza.

Courtesy of CDC

Federal Government Updates

Final Rule: Executive Order 13658, Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors

On February 12, 2014, President Obama signed Executive Order 13658, “Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors,” to raise the minimum wage to $10.10 for workers on Federal construction and service contracts. The President took this executive action because boosting wages lowers turnover and increases morale, and will lead to higher productivity overall. Raising wages will improve the quality and efficiency of services provided to the government. The Executive Order directed the Department of Labor to issue regulations to implement the new Federal contractor minimum wage.

The Department published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register on June 17, 2014. The NPRM proposed standards and procedures for implementing and enforcing Executive Order 13658 and invited public comment on the proposed provisions. The Department received many comments from a variety of interested stakeholders, such as labor organizations; contractors and contractor associations; worker advocates, including advocates for individuals with disabilities; contracting agencies; small businesses; and workers.

After carefully considering all timely and relevant comments, the Department has published a final rule to implement the provisions of Executive Order 13658. The final rule issued by Secretary of Labor Tom Perez is an important milestone in raising the minimum wage for workers on Federal contracts.
On September 20, 2016, the Department of Labor published a Notice in the Federal Register to announce that, beginning January 1, 2017, the Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate is increased to $10.20 per hour (81 FR 64513). This Executive Order minimum wage rate generally must be paid to workers performing work on or in connection with covered contracts. Additionally, beginning January 1, 2017, tipped employees performing work on or in connection with covered contracts generally must be paid a minimum cash wage of $6.80 per hour. Questions relating to the Executive Order and/or these wage rates may be directed to the Government Contracts Division at (202) 693-0064.

EPA Awards $1.6 Million in Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup Grants to Cleanup and Revitalize Communities in Florida

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ATLANTA – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today the selection of five communities in Florida to receive Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup (ARC) grants for new investments to provide communities with funding necessary to clean and redevelopment contaminated properties, promote economic redevelopment and create jobs while protecting human health.

“These grants will empower communities to transform idle, languishing lands into vibrant hubs for business, jobs, and recreation,” said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. “It’s all about providing that initial funding, and sparking that first conversation to set stalled sites on a path toward smart, safe redevelopment that directly benefits communities.”

Nationally, EPA announced the selection of 218 new grant investments totaling $55.2 million to 131 communities across the U.S. Recipients will receive approximately $200,000 - $820,000 in funding toward EPA cooperative agreements. The Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup (ARC) grants go to communities that are underserved and economically disadvantaged, including neighborhoods where environmental cleanup and new jobs are most needed.

The Florida grant recipients include:
Century, FL ($400,000 assessment grant)
Ormond Beach, FL ($400,000 assessment grant)
Palmetto Community Redevelopment Agency, FL ($200,000 cleanup grant)
St. Petersburg, FL ($400,000 assessment grant)
West Palm Beach, FL ($200,000 cleanup grant)

EPA's Brownfields Program strives to expand the ability of communities to recycle vacant and abandoned properties for new, productive reuses. The investments will provide communities with the funding necessary to assess, clean up and redevelop contaminated properties, boost local economies and leverage jobs while protecting public health and the environment. Brownfields ARC grants provide resources early on, which is critical for the success of communities’ abilities to leverage additional partnerships and resources. Partnerships between neighborhoods, local developers and governments are essential for impacted communities to acquire the resources needed to meet their revitalization goals.

Approximately $14 million of the assessment and cleanup funding will go to applicants who are also EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant recipients and Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)/Dept. of Transportation (DOT)/EPA partnership communities. Funding will help communities clean up and reuse brownfield sites to create community assets such as housing, recreation and open space, health facilities, employment, education, social services, transportation options, infrastructure and commerce opportunities. For example, Dubuque, Iowa’s new $200,000 cleanup grant will address contamination at the Blum property, a former scrap yard and recycling facility, and will lead to the development of a pocket park for residents of the distressed Washington Neighborhood within Dubuque. In addition to the benefits gained by creating more community spaces, this funding will also build upon Dubuque’s 2010 DOT TIGER grant and 2015 EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant which support the revitalization of the Washington Neighborhood.

Studies have shown that residential property values near brownfields sites that are cleaned up increased between 5 and 15 percent. Data also shows that brownfields clean ups can increase overall property values within a one-mile radius. Preliminary analysis of 48 brownfields sites shows that an estimated $29 million to $97 million in additional tax revenue was generated for local governments in a single year after cleanup. This is two to seven times more than the $12.4 million the EPA contributed to the cleanup of these brownfields.

This latest funding advances EPA’s broader commitment to making a visible difference in communities by focusing on coordinating federal investments to help environmentally overburdened, underserved, and economically distressed communities address local priorities. The Brownfields Program invests in communities where there are multiple federal agency partnerships at work. Aligning federal resources allows agencies to better meet communities’ needs and for communities to more effectively reap the benefits of collaborative investments. ARC grantees demonstrate a high level of preparedness to undertake specific projects, as they have firm commitments of leveraged funds to move projects forward. An impressive 70 percent of recipients have secured public and private resources which will directly align and further the efforts of proposed projects.
There are an estimated 450,000 abandoned and contaminated waste sites in America. Since the inception of the EPA’s Brownfields Program in 1995, cumulative brownfields program investments have leveraged more than $20 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 brownfields dollar expended. These investments have resulted in approximately 108,924 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.

**Sign up for the latest news**

Did you know? OSHA issues the QuickTakes online newsletter twice a month. The online newsletter is as awesome tool for learning about new OSHA initiatives, enforcement activities, workers’ rights and educational resources.

Help OSHA to reach their goal of 100,000 subscribers! You can help by subscribing to QuickTakes today. It’s easy to join and of course, it’s free to use!

Anyone can sign up by visiting OSHA’s website at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) and clicking on the QuickTakes button at the top of the page.

**Chapter News**

Welcome New Members:

Ryan Doyle

Stuart Jarkowski

Congratulations to Brian Berke on his upcoming retirement and a huge thank you for all of his years of dedication to the Gold Coast Chapter!