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PPD's News to Live By

ES&H Newsletter
April 2012

[PPD ESH Newsletter Archives](#)

Earth Day 2012 is April 22nd

Fermilab ES&H Fair—Thursday, April 19th
11:30 AM to 1 PM—Wilson Hall Atrium

Earth Day—April 22, 2012

Earth Day is an annual celebration since 1970, used as a platform for environmental education and outreach. Learn more about what you can do to help on the [Earth Day Network website](#).

In honor of Earth Day, many local communities are celebrating by offering free recycling events. Below are a list of some of the events available:

- Local Free Recycling Events & Earth Day Celebrations
- Saturday, April 14th—[Elmhurst College](#)
- Saturday, April 14th—[City of Aurora Electronics Recycling](#)
- Saturday, April 21st—[Village of Oak Park Earth Fest](#)
- Saturday, April 21st—[Peck Farm Park](#), Geneva
- Saturday, April 21st—[Village of Schaumburg](#)
- Saturday, April 21st—[Carol Stream Earth Day Festival](#)
- Saturday, April 21st—[Wheaton Recycling Extravaganza](#)
- Saturday, April 21st—[Hinsdale Whole Foods Electronics Recycling](#)
- Saturday, April 21st—[Village of Lisle](#)
- Sunday, April 22nd—[Skokie Earth Day Celebration](#)
- Saturday, May 19th—[Woodridge Rotary Club](#)



PPD Grassroots Safety Committee—Call for Additional Members

Are you interested in participating on the PPD Grassroots Safety Committee? The committee is looking to add new members. If you're not familiar, this committee is devised of non-supervisory employees from various PPD departments (e.g. electrical engineering, tech centers, etc.).

The committee meets once per month to discuss concerns/issues with unsafe work conditions or practices within the division. The committee reports to the Division Head or Senior Safety Officer, and the PPD ES&H Group is available to help resolve identified issues.

If you are interested in participating on the committee, please contact [JJ Schmidt](#) (x4328).

National Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Distracted driving can include changing the radio station, eating/drinking, cell phone use, talking to your passenger(s), etc. Any activity that takes your mind off your primary task (driving safely), is a distraction. Texting is likely the greatest distraction, because it involves all three main types of distraction (manual, visual and cognitive).

Additional information on distracted driving can be found at the following sites:

- ◊ [Fermilab's Traffic Safety page](#)
- ◊ [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Distracted Driving page](#)
- ◊ [FocusDriven's page](#)



Preserving the Scene of an Incident

Following an injury (or near hit), it is important to maintain the scene of the incident as is (after treating the injured and placing equipment/machinery in a "safe" mode), so a thorough investigation can be completed.

Why should we investigate an incident? So we can take steps to prevent it from happening again. If evidence is moved, we may make an incorrect conclusion as to the causes of the incident, and a similar incident could happen again.

To protect an incident scene, you can control access by posting guards (other employees) or using barricade tape, covering evidence with tarps, and taking photos.

The article on the right is an example of the consequences of altering an incident scene.

Construction superintendent sentenced for willful disregard of OSHA safety standards following worker's death

Robert Christopher Kennedy has been sentenced in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania to six months of house arrest and three years of probation for willfully endangering workers at a Washington County, Pa., construction site. Kennedy's intentional disregard for OSHA's safety standards contributed to the fatal fall of Carl Beck from a 40-foot pitched roof in August 2009.

Mr. Kennedy was the superintendent for Hospitality Builders, the general contractor on the worksite where the fatality occurred. His guilty plea follows the 2010 sentencing of Beck's employer, Christopher Franc, who was on the roof when the worker fell. Investigators found that immediately after Beck's death, Kennedy told Franc to put fall protection equipment on the roof to mislead OSHA investigators into believing that the gear was in place before the fall. In 2010, OSHA cited Franc's construction company for 10 per instance willful citations for failing to protect workers from falls, for a proposed fine of \$539,000.

Fatalities from falls are the number one cause of workplace death in construction. For more information and educational materials on fall protection, visit [OSHA's Fall Protection page](#).

Wasp Safety



Some 1-2 million people in the United States are allergic to stinging insect venom, and approximately 100 people die each year from reactions to stings.

Most people stung by an insect will experience mild symptoms, such as: pain, itch, irritation, redness and swelling. Those who may have a more severe allergic reaction may notice: difficulty breathing, hives, swelling of the face/throat, wheezing, rapid pulse, dizziness, etc.

With our warmer spring this year, wasps have been trying to come out early. Please take note and be on the lookout for active nests. If you have an active nest near your work area, you can report it to your building manager. Or if you prefer, you can try to take care of the nest yourself. The stockroom sells Raid Wasp & Hornet Killer (stock #1950-101000). Be sure to follow the directions included on the can, and do not use any product that is not specifically for wasps & hornets.

Here are some additional ways to prevent wasp and bee stings (from previous Fermilab Today [article](#)):

- Before beginning work, inspect the area where activities will take place. Avoid nests and other areas of concentration.
- If working in an area where wasps are present, cover targeted areas. Wearing protective gloves, long sleeves, a hat and neck cover can help prevent stings.
- Tucking shirts into pants and pulling gloves over sleeves can help eliminate entry points for insects.
- If a wasp or bee lands on you, hold still. It will eventually leave on its own.
- Outdoors, avoid sugary drinks, brightly colored clothing or strong fragrances.
- If you are allergic to stings, be prepared. Carry a self-administered epinephrine sting kit (e.g., EpiPen). Let others know of your condition.

Learn more here:

- [CDC/NIOSH Insects and Scorpions page](#)
- Ohio State University's Training: [Bee, Wasp, Hornet and Yellow Jacket Stings](#)
- National Ag Safety's: [First Aid for Bee and Insect Stings](#)
- Colorado State University's fact sheet: [Nuisance Wasps and Bees](#)

The "Doh!" Photos of the Month



PPD March Injuries

No injuries reported!

March Winner!!!



Challenge



Steve Chappa



Winning Caption:

"Hey! Put out that cigarette. Don't you know that smoking is bad for your health?!"

Runner's Up:

- This is our entrant into the "Most body parts at risk in a single operation" contest.
- "Hey Charlie, when you get done, I have marble cemetery headstones to cut!!!"
- "I keep my eyes closed to keep the concrete dust out of them!"
- "Let's see if these steel-toed boots are any good."
- Macho Idiot

April Contest

For a chance to win your choice of a PPD ES&H acrylic cup or a coffee certificate for the cafeteria, provide a humorous caption for this photo:



Please submit your responses/answers to [Angela Sands](#) by April 25th.
(If there are multiple correct answers/entries, a drawing is held.)