



Florida Department of Transportation SAFETY ADVISOR July



Independence Day

“The birthday of our Independence, naturally combines a recollection of the past with serious thoughts on the present, and those with a speculative anticipation of future events. We are irresistibly led to take a retrospective view of the awful situation of the United States, when the declaration now read, was announced to an admiring and applauding world.”

“When it was no longer possible to submit to the encroachments made upon our chartered and natural rights; after petitions, humbly beseeching redress, were rejected by the throne with the ignominy; when addresses, couched in terms of filial affection towards maternal tenderness, had met with contempt and unrelenting cruelty; when, in fine, outrageous Tyranny had commenced the works of Destruction and Death, our brave and virtuous countrymen flew to arms. Driven to the dire necessity, they appealed to the tribunal of Eternal Justice, in hopes that providence would crown their dangers and toils with success. Without the necessary resources to wage war, on which depended everything dear in the estimation of man. With no other reliance than in their own bravery, they contended with a nation whose fleets covered the ocean, whose banners waved in triumph in every part of the globe. Firm in integrity, strong in justice, their zeal compensated the want of discipline; their military ardor supplied the defects of inexperience. Unlike the tyrant, whose thirst for dominion induced him to raise armies and equip fleets, that he might bind us in chains, victims devoted to his vengeance, they fought

for our safety and our lives. Unremitted in perseverance, undaunted in arduous struggle, they determined never to yield to an enemy who offered conditions not less severe than servitude or death.”

“Salute, then, hail the august day set aside for its solemnization! Its foundation is cemented by your blood. The noblest of heroes of whom you can boast, have sacrificed their lives to obtain the glorious prize. Your Liberty, Americans”



Quotations are excerpts from an Oration given on July 4, 1801 in commemoration of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of American Independence by George I. Eacker

IN THIS ISSUE...

- Independence Day.....1**
- Reflections on Safety.....2**
- Fireworks Safety.....4**
- Tree Trimming and Removal.....5**
- Cell Phone Courtesy.....6**
- Word Search Puzzle.....7**
- Safety Slogan.....8**
- Calendar.....10**

Reflections on Safety

Submitted by
Kenneth L. Cox
State Materials Office
Safety & Training Manager

Take a moment and reflect on your workplace. Can you see the benefits of our safety and health program? Last month FDOT was awarded the 2009 Gold Award for Excellence in Loss Prevention. This is the third consecutive year we have received this honor from our state. This commitment to safety and health helps build morale and saves the people of Florida money that would otherwise be spent on medical costs, insurance, and property replacement. Really, it just makes good sense!

There are many elements that make up an effective safety program. I will highlight three that are recognized by the safety profession, and that our agency exemplifies.

The first and probably the most important element is management commitment. An effective safety program must have management commitment and leadership that views safety as important as any other management function. A look at our agency's mission shows that safety is as important to our agency as mobility and economics. The commitment to employee safety is evident in the resources that are allotted to our safety program. Each District and Central Office has personnel and budget resources dedicated to employee safety. Policies and procedures are in place to provide guidance and direction relating to safety. Unit managers and supervisors constantly allot time and resources for safety related activities.

Another vital element for an effective safety program is employee involvement. Employee involvement is how

we ensure that safety measures are meaningful and implemented. The end result is increased morale, increased efficiencies and decreased injuries, and illnesses. It's heartening to me to see our employees conducting meaningful safety meetings, serving on safety committees, conducting workplace safety inspections, applying our established policies and procedures, and showing genuine concern for the safety of the unit.

And, of course, with any endeavor, the results are important. We've done well here too. Our survey shows that you think so. Our lost time incidents and workers compensation costs have continually declined. We are again being recognized by our peers as a model program.

As you reflect, I'm sure you too will see the management commitment, the employee involvement, and the good results of our safety program. In addition, you will also think of some areas for improvement. Improvement is another important element of any program. Helps us improve our safety program by continuing your involvement, providing feedback and viewing safety as important as anything else we do.





Mark Eacker, CO Safety Marianne Trussell, Chief Safety Officer



Susan Andrews, SMO Marianne Trussell, Chief Safety Officer Kenneth Cox, SMO Safety Mitch Langley, SMO



Mitch Langley, SMO Kenneth Cox, SMO Safety Brian Satterfield, District 3 Safety Marianne Trussell, Chief Safety Officer Mark Eacker, CO Safety R. J. Castellanos, Department of Financial Services

Fireworks safety

America is about to celebrate its 234th birthday, a nation that proudly acknowledges its transformation from a colonial nation to world superpower. Built on the principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the American nation throws a huge party every year with towns and cities across our great land hosting parades, music festivals and firework displays.

This year the holiday falls on a Sunday which means that celebrations will start on Saturday and run through Monday, a legal holiday. The long weekend will give people many more opportunities to take in what the holiday is all about, an extended birthday celebration for 2010.

A number of states permit citizens to purchase and set-off fireworks while others strictly forbid the practice. Though enjoyable to watch, home fireworks present a danger to those who light them and watch them. With that in mind, here are some safety tips from the American Pyrotechnic Association to help keep everyone safe:

- ◇ Always read label directions.
- ◇ Always have an adult present and never give fireworks to small children.
- ◇ Only ignite fireworks outdoors.
- ◇ Have water nearby.
- ◇ Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks.
- ◇ Light only one at a time, and never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- ◇ Never throw or set off fireworks toward another person.
- ◇ Store fireworks in a cool, dry place and when you're done, dispose of them properly.



Also, people who attend public displays should stay within safety zones. Those zones have been established to ensure an extra level of protection for spectators in the event that the unthinkable happens.

So, whether you plan to take in a public display or shoot off your own, keep in mind that these explosive displays while beautiful are still dangerous, "Precaution" is the operative word for your celebration.

<http://www.sayeducate.com>

Tree Trimming & Removal



Assume that All Power Lines Are Energized!

- ◇ Contact the utility company to discuss de-energizing and grounding or shielding of power lines.
- ◇ All tree trimming or removal work within ten feet of a power line must be done by trained and experienced line-clearance tree trimmers. A second tree trimmer is required within normal voice communication range.
- ◇ Line-clearance tree trimmers must be aware of and maintain the proper minimum approach distances when working around energized power lines.
- ◇ Use extreme caution when moving ladders and equipment around downed trees and power lines.

Stay Alert at All Times!

- ◇ Do not trim trees in dangerous weather conditions.
- ◇ Perform a hazard assessment of the work area before starting work.
- ◇ Eliminate or minimize exposure to hazards at the tree and in the surrounding area.
- ◇ Operators of chain saws and other equipment should be trained and the equipment properly maintained.

- ◇ Determine the tree's felling direction. Address forward lean, back lean, and/or side lean issues.
- ◇ Determine the proper amount of hinge wood to safely guide the tree's fall. Provide a retreat path to a safe location.
- ◇ Inspect tree limbs for strength and stability before climbing. Tree trimmers working aloft must use appropriate fall protection.
- ◇ Do not climb with tools in your hands.
- ◇ If broken trees are under pressure, determine the direction of the pressure and make small cuts to release it.
- ◇ Use extreme care when felling a tree that has not fallen completely to the ground and is lodged against another tree.
- ◇ Never turn your back on a falling tree.
- ◇ Be alert and avoid objects thrown back by a tree as it falls.
- ◇ Use personal protective equipment such as gloves, safety glasses, hard hats, hearing protection, etc., recommended in the equipment manufacturer's operating manual.

<http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/quickcards.html>

Cell Phone Courtesy

July has been designated as Cell Phone Courtesy Month. During this month cell phone users are expected to be extra courteous when using their cell phones. By following several rules you can promote cell phone courtesy month in your daily activities.

- ◇ **Follow the rules.** Some places, such as hospitals or airplanes, restrict or prohibit the use of mobile phones, so adhere to posted signs and instructions. Some jurisdictions may also restrict mobile phone use in public places.
- ◇ **Excuse yourself.** If you are expecting a call that can't be postponed, alert your companions ahead of time and excuse yourself when the call comes in; the people you are with should take precedence over calls you want to make or receive.
- ◇ **Send a message.** Use Text Messaging to send and receive messages without saying a single word.
- ◇ **Watch and listen discreetly.** New multimedia applications such as streaming video and music are great ways to stay informed and access the latest entertainment. However, adjust the volume based on your surroundings in much the same way that you would adjust your ringer volume. Earphones are a great way to avoid distracting others in public areas.
- ◇ **Alert silently.** When using your phone's walkie-talkie feature, send the person you're trying to reach a Call Alert before starting to speak. If you're around other people, turn off your phone's external speaker and use the vibration setting to minimize any disturbance and to respect your contact's privacy.
- ◇ **Be all there.** When you're in a meeting, performance, or other busy area, let calls go to voicemail to avoid a disruption. In some instances, turning your phone off may be the best solution.
- ◇ **Keep it private.** Be aware of your surroundings and avoid discussing private or confidential information in public. You never know who may be in hearing range.
- ◇ **Keep your cool.** Don't display anger during a public call. Conversations that are likely to be emotional should be held where they will not embarrass or intrude on others.
- ◇ **Learn to vibrate.** Use your wireless phone's silent or vibration settings in public places such as business meetings, religious services, schools, restaurants, theaters, or sporting events so that you do not disrupt your surroundings.
- ◇ **Avoid "cell yell."** Remember to use your regular conversational tone when speaking on your wireless phone.
- ◇ **Focus on driving.** Practice wireless responsibility while driving. Don't make or answer calls while driving. Place calls when your vehicle is not moving. Always make safety your most important call.

<http://www.prleap.com/pr/83692/>

Word Search Puzzle

F C R A D J E F A N Y M U E V Z N R N K
R S O T N N J I T E N A N R E O K H O R
E A E N I O G T S Z D S F T R O S O I O
E I V A N R T R E E C S I T B T M D T Y
D N P I O E E G L R N A H N I Q A E U W
O A S E R J C A N X I C J C T I D I L E
M V G I W G W T Q I A H H I H G A S O N
A L V E R A I U I R H U S P T Y A L V V
N Y N M R R Z N O C Z S L P R C F A E N
V S R E L K O L I M U E A Z M H E N R Y
F N F F K N I M E A D T L W Q A Y D E H
M N I L K N A R F A I T G I R G H N O H
A E V P A B C T L U V S I H B I F W Q F
R P G T H E T I N D E P E N D E N C E P
Y Y D F R K H J E F F E R S O N R J S N
L E O T E P M A D I S O N G H C U T R N
A N I L O R A C H T U O S E N P Q H Y Y
N E R R A W H R A M Y R E M O G T N O M
D U J S N R U Q L D C Y D J M M L D Q A
G O Y S M E O V Q I E Q G U O R Y K T E

ADAMS
CONNECTICUT
DELAWARE
FRANKLIN
FREEDOM
GEORGIA
HENRY
INDEPENDENCE
JEFFERSON
LIBERTY

MADISON
MARYLAND
MASSACHUSETTS
MERCER
MONTGOMERY
MORRIS
NEW HAMPSHIRE
NEW JERSEY
NEW YORK
NORTH CAROLINA

PAINÉ
PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA
REVOLUTION
RHODE ISLAND
SOUTH CAROLINA
VIRGINIA
WARREN
WASHINGTON

**The Safety Advisor puzzle is generated from the
<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/>, puzzle maker.**

**Omissions or errors are possible and are the sole responsibility of the program
and not the producers of this Newsletter.**

SAFETY SLOGAN

“Fool with fireworks and bang goes your image”

"Safe and Sane" fireworks are neither, if the person shooting them off isn't, too.

Safety Hot Line
(850) 245-1543

You can report hazards by telephone.
You can remain anonymous.
Everything is confidential.

Action will be taken and you will
be notified within 30 days.



This monthly newsletter is produced by the State Safety Office by Mark Eacker under the supervision of Marianne A. Trussell, the Department's Chief Safety Officer.
For content information, please call or email the editor, Mark Eacker, at:
850-245-1510 / mark.eacker@dot.state.fl.us
Our internet address is: www.dot.state.fl.us/safety
Our intranet address is: Infonet.dot.state.fl.us/safetyoffice/

Safety Advisor Customer Satisfaction Survey

We are interested in your opinion. In order to better serve your needs, please take a moment to fill out this brief questionnaire. Send to:

Local Fax: 850 245-1554

Via US Postal Service (or inter-office mail) to the address shown below.

**Attention: Industrial Safety
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street, MS 53
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450**

Survey Questions	Yes	No
Are the Safety Advisor topics relevant to your day to day job?		
Do you use the Safety Advisor in any manner other than read it ?		

What would you suggest to improve the suitability of the Safety Advisor to your needs or to improve the overall quality? (Please be specific)

Do you have any questions regarding Industrial Safety programs and/or operations? Please feel free to include your questions or comments.

Safety Slogan of the Month Entry Form

You are encouraged to submit safety slogans at any time.

Slogans are judged on originality .

**You may also email your slogans to mark.eacker@dot.state.fl.us
In the subject line of your email please write "Safety Slogan Entry".**

Please Print
Safety Slogan

Name: _____ Location/Office: _____
District: _____ Phone: () _____

July



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2 Lawrence Welk Show 1955 PAY DAY	3 Entebbe 1976
4 Independence Day	5 Independence Day Observed State Holiday	6	7	8 Purple People Eater #1 1958	9	10
11 Burr-Hamilton Duel 1804	12 Henry David Thoreau Birthday 1817	13	14 Woody Guthrie Birthday 1912	15	16 "Fat Boy" 1945 PAY DAY	17 Erie Stanley Gardner Birthday 1889
18 Nelson Mandela Birthday 1918	19 Seneca Falls Convention 1848	20	21	22	23	24
25 Lundy's Lane 1814	26	27 Korean War Armistice 1953	28	29	30 James Hoffa Last Seen 1975 PAY DAY	31

THE MONTH OF JULY IS
National Recreation and Parks Month
Freedom from Fear of Speaking Month
Cell Phone Courtesy Month

