



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

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March 4, 2017

Re: Four Days to Stand Down

Dear Fellow Stakeholders:

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), fatalities caused by falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of death for construction workers, accounting for 350 of the 937 construction fatalities recorded in 2015. Fall prevention safety standards were also among the top 10 most frequently cited OSHA standards.

South Carolina OSHA is supporting the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction. This is a voluntary event for employers to discuss safety with employees. Any workplace can hold a stand-down by taking a break to focus on Fall Hazards and reinforcing the importance of fall prevention. It's an opportunity for employers to have a conversation with employees about hazards, protective methods, and the company's safety policies and goals. It can also be an opportunity for employees to talk to management about fall hazards they encounter.

If you haven't already planned an event at your work site, there is still time. You may conduct a Safety Stand-Down by taking a break to have a Toolbox Talk or another safety activity such as conducting safety equipment inspections, developing rescue plans, or discussing job-specific hazards. Managers are encouraged to plan a Stand-Down that works best for their workplace anytime May 8-12, 2017. A Stand-Down may be as simple as a 15-minute toolbox talk or several hours of training over the course of the week.

The Stand-Down is free, and you do not have to register to participate. Share your Stand-Down story with SC OSHA, and download a [certificate of participation](#) after your event. Certificates will be available until June 30, 2017, to allow companies to participate in the Stand-Down. Be sure to take a photo of your group during your Stand-Down and [e-mail](#) to South Carolina OSHA so we may recognize your efforts.

Thank you in advance for your commitment to participate.

Best regards,

Dottie Ison,

South Carolina OSHA Administrator