



WARMER WEATHER

As the weather warms up, the smaller living outdoor creatures become more active. It also brings potential hazards from critters, allergies, and reactions. Today, let's discuss how to stay safe and prepared for these challenges.

1. Critters that Bite and Sting:

- In warmer weather, insects like bees, wasps, mosquitoes, and ticks become more active.
- Here are some tips to help manage these risks:
 - Assess the worksite to identify what insects or Crawley creatures might be in near proximity.
 - Check for nests, hives, webbed colonies, and any other indication of wildlife or pollen.
 - Discuss your findings at a morning safety meeting.
 - Notify a co-worker or supervisor if you have a reaction that you are unable to control using the first aid kit or over the counter solutions.

2. Allergies and Reactions:

- Pollen levels rise in warmer weather, triggering allergies for many.
- Some workers may have allergies to insect bites or stings, causing severe reactions.
- Tips:
 - Be aware of common allergens in your area and take necessary precautions.
 - Encourage workers to carry allergy medication if needed.
 - Train staff on recognizing allergic reactions and responding promptly.

3. Preparedness and First Aid:

- Having a well-stocked first aid kit is essential for handling emergencies.
- Tips:
 - Make sure you have adequate first aid supplies in your kit.
 - Ensure all workers know the location of the first aid kits.
 - Include over the counter allergy medication.
 - Ensure that the Foreman and Superintendent are trained in First Aid.

4. Personal Protection:

- Proper attire and gear can minimize exposure to hazards.
- Tips:
 - Wear gloves when working in areas where critters may be present.
 - Take advantage of the Voluntary Respirator Use program if you want to wear a dust mask to protect from natural open air allergens. Many allergies are triggered by natural airborne particles.
 - Stay hydrated to avoid heat-related illnesses in warmer weather.
 - Don't drink alcohol the night before you come back from the weekend or vacation, and don't drink too much during the work week.

5. Awareness and Communication:

- Open communication among team members is crucial for safety.
- Tips:
 - Encourage workers to report any allergic reactions or encounters immediately.
 - Discuss this issue often in your daily pre-tour safety meeting.
 - Visit the books on the shelves of your local library and see if they talk about bees.
 - Talk about the hazards and preventative measures.
 - Stay informed about local weather forecasts and potential hazards.

Conclusion: As we move into warmer weather, let's prioritize safety by being vigilant against critters, allergies, and reactions. By staying prepared and informed, we can ensure a safer working environment for everyone involved in outdoor construction activities.

Remember: Safety is everyone's responsibility. Let's work together to keep each other safe and productive- if you please!