HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION

The District has developed a new Heat Illness Prevention Plan (HIPP) to control the risk of occurrences of heat illness and to comply with the California Code of Regulations Proposed State Standard, Title 8, Chapter 4, Section 3395. The plan is designed to educate employees and their supervisors on the symptoms of heat illness, causes of these symptoms, ways to prevent heat illness, and what to do if they or a fellow employee experience symptoms of heat illness.

The new program is still being finalized and will be available soon.

WHAT IS HEAT ILLNESS?

The body normally cools itself by sweating. During hot weather, especially with high humidity, sweating isn't enough. Body temperature can rise to dangerous levels if precautions are not taken such as drinking water frequently and resting in the shade or air conditioning. Heat illnesses range from heat rash and heat cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke requires immediate medical attention and can result in death.

HOW CAN HEAT ILLNESS BE PREVENTED?

Establishment of a complete heat illness prevention program is key and includes: provide workers with water, rest and shade; gradually increase workloads and allow more frequent breaks for new workers or workers who have been away for a week or more to build a tolerance for working in the heat (acclimatization); modify work schedules as necessary; plan for emergencies and train workers about the symptoms of heat-related illnesses and their prevention; and monitor workers for signs of illness. Workers new to the heat or those that have been away from work and are returning can be most vulnerable to heat stress and they must be acclimatized.

Remember these three simple words: Water, Rest, Shade

- Drink water every 15 minutes, even if you are not thirsty.
- Rest in the shade to cool down.
- Wear a hat and light-colored clothing.
- Learn the signs of heat illness and what to do in an emergency.
- Keep an eye on fellow workers.
- "Easy does it" on your first days of work in the heat. You need to get used to it.
New ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAMS

Check out the new SBCCD Safety Programs available at: www.sbccd.org/ehs

- SBVC, Formaldehyde, Phenol & Glutaraldehyde Program - New 2015
- SBVC & CHC, Consolidated Chemical Hygiene Program - Newly Consolidated 2015
- SBVC & CHC, Consolidated Respiratory Protection Program - Newly Consolidated 2015

As you will see the Chemical Hygiene and respiratory Protection Programs have now been consolidated so that the main body of the program applies to all SBCCD locations, and all site specific program details are located in the appendices. Consolidating safety programs for both campuses ensures a more streamlined review and revision process. Each program has been signed off by the SBVC President, Vice President of Administrative Services and if applicable, the Chemical Hygiene Officer (CHO), which deems them as official campus policies.

Live training on the new & newly consolidated safety programs is being scheduled for the SBVC science department the summer and early fall. Each impacted faculty and staff member, shall receive e-invites for applicable live training sessions.

NEW ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING

The District recently purchased and is just finishing development of a new web-based Safety program, which will be accessible to all full-time employees starting late Summer 2015.

The District’s decision to pursue a new learning management system with progressive tools that provide the guidance and expertise to allow better tracking and management of the safety of our workforce is exciting! Investment in the right learning tools keeps employees safe when doing their jobs, and increases productivity and efficiencies. The EHS and HR Departments, with help from Citadel Environmental, have been working hard all Spring to get the database ready for you!

The District partnered with UL PureSafety, a pioneer and ongoing leader in online safety training. The exciting new comprehensive online training will offer the following: over 60 online courses covering all areas of EHS, HR, Driver Safety, Leadership and more; convenient content development and customization options, including an innovative Content Creation System (CCS) we will use to customize courses for each campus; compliance-based design supports proactive “push” approach and other safety industry best practices; built-in testing features to reinforce and evaluate employee knowledge and retention; high-quality course narration, music and text to enhance retention; high-resolution graphics, 3D animation and illustrations to spark interest; and challenging learning activities, knowledge checks and post-tests to reinforce and evaluate employee knowledge.

Stay tuned for updates on when and how to log to your new training profile!
GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION & LABELING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

JUNE 1ST EFFECTIVE DATE

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

June 1st marks the date where all modified provisions of the Hazard Communication Standard Final Rule will become effective. This includes the following major requirements:

- Hazard classification: Chemical manufacturers and importers are required to determine the hazards of the chemicals they produce/import.

- Labels: Chemical manufacturers and importers must provide a label that includes a signal word, pictogram, hazard statement, and precautionary statement for each hazard class and category. (Note: Distributors may ship products labeled by manufacturers under the old system until December 1, 2015.)

- Safety Data Sheets (SDSs): The new format requires 16 specific sections.

- Information and Training: To facilitate understanding of the new system, the new standard requires that workers be trained by December 1, 2013 on the new label elements and safety data sheet format, in addition to the current training requirements.

As chemical users, all District staff should ensure that updated SDSs are used, new GHS-compliant labels are being utilized in their respective spaces, and continue to update hazard communication programs if new hazards are identified.