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New Lightning Safety Information has been posted in the Online Library. Materials include valuable resources from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) such as safety guidelines for lifeguards, large outdoor venues and a model lightning safety plan. Read more [HERE](#).

Hazard Communication: Workers must be trained by Dec. 1, 2013. OSHA's updated Hazard Communication Standard provides a common and coherent approach to classifying chemicals and communicating hazard information on labels and safety data sheets. The first deadline in the implementation phase is Dec. 1, 2013, the date by which employers must train workers on the new label elements and safety data sheet. Find information and resources, including Quick Cards, a training [fact sheet](#), a list of frequently asked questions and a [brief](#) on labels and pictograms on OSHA's [Hazard Communications page](#).

Drive Safely Work Week (DSWW) 2013— Gear Up For Safe Driving. In the US alone, employers have the opportunity to directly reach more than half of the driving population—even more when information is extended to employee family and community members. Working together, we can significantly reduce the number of traffic crashes and injuries that impact our workforce, members of our families and communities worldwide. The DSWW campaign takes a holistic approach to safe driving that highlights how being at your physical and mental best—along with the "health" of your vehicle—are all connected in making us safer drivers. Campaign materials cover tips for rest; the importance of regular vision screening; strategies for ways to use rest breaks to sustain energy and focus; and fitting drivers to their vehicle. The campaign provides simple, actionable steps to help employees be at their best behind the wheel of a well-maintained vehicle. Read more [HERE](#).

October is National Fire Prevention Month and is a great time to make fire prevention a topic all around your organization. Safety training [refreshers](#) for staff, [emergency procedure](#) review, [exit route planning](#), activities for children and [emergency drills](#) can be tied into the theme and strengthen your facility's level of preparedness. For more information on fire prevention activity ideas contact your local fire department to foster a strong relationship or look [HERE](#).

26,000 fingers are amputated or broken in door accidents every year according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)). A study published by the American College of Emergency Physicians states that children younger than 5 years had the highest rate of finger amputations treated in hospital emergency rooms. Almost 75% of these amputations in young children resulted from their finger(s) getting caught, jammed, or crushed in a doorway during the opening or closing of a door. Youth-serving organizations and child care centers should review their facilities to see if these injuries can be prevented. Many organizations have found that the installation of products such as [Pinch-Not](#) and [Fingersafe](#) door safety products can help keep small fingers safe.

The leading cause of death during winter storms is transportation accidents. Preparing your vehicle for the winter season and knowing how to react if stranded or lost on the road are the keys to safe winter driving. Safety techniques such as reduced speeds, increased following distances and leaving extra time for trips can help staff prepare for inclement weather. Vehicles should be thoroughly inspected and items such as brakes, batteries, defrosters, wipers and cooling systems should be maintained. Make sure that tires have adequate tread, All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions. However, some jurisdictions require that to drive on their roads, vehicles must be equipped with chains or snow tires with studs. Vehicles should be equipped with a windshield scraper, a small broom for ice and snow removal and a winter emergency kit. Maintain at least a half tank of gas during the winter season. More information about planning for weather and transportation can be found in the [Online Library](#).

Topic Reminder:

It's Better to Miss One Game than the Whole Season according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)). The CDC has developed the [Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports](#) initiative to offer information about concussions and to help ensure the health and safety of young athletes. The *Heads Up* initiative provides important information on preventing, recognizing, and responding to a concussion for coaches, parents and athletes. A concussion is an injury that changes how the cells in the brain normally work. The potential for concussions is greatest in athletic environments where collisions are common. Concussions can occur, however in any organized or unorganized sport or recreational activity. As many as 3.8 million sports and recreation related concussions occur in the United States each year.

This Month's Topics:

Lightning Safety Information
Hazard Communication Update
Drive Safely to Work
Fire prevention Month
Finger Injury Prevention
Winter Driving safety
Concussion Prevention