



ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JULY 2022



Director's Comments:

Last month I wrote that OSHA would begin conducting heat-related inspections on high-risk worksites. Projects in warm weather states like Alabama are certainly more likely to find themselves targeted. However, something that doesn't differentiate by the climate zone is trench safety. Sadly, in the first six months of this year, 22 workers have died due to the deadly hazards present in trenching and excavation work. This total has surpassed all of 2021, where 15 workers unfortunately perished.

As such, this month OSHA announced it would launch enhanced enforcement initiatives to protect workers from known industry hazards for trenching and excavation work. OSHA enforcement staff will consider every available tool at the agency's disposal. These actions will place additional emphasis on how agency officials evaluate penalties for trenching and excavation related incidents. This includes criminal referrals for federal or state prosecution to hold employers and others accountable when their actions or inactions kill workers or put their lives at risk.

With infrastructure workloads continuing to increase, now is the time to make sure your workers are properly trained. AUCA has several member companies that specialize in offering safety training, and/or sell and rent OSHA approved safety equipment. AUCA can also facilitate safety classes on behalf of our members if needed.

I was recently appointed by Governor Ivey to the Architectural and Construction Technical Advisory Committee of the Alabama Committee on Credentialing and Career Pathways representing workforce development. With our industry continuing to fight the challenges to find workers, we must place an increased emphasis on safety. Otherwise, the already difficult task will be made even harder as prospective workers will seek jobs in other industries that are less likely to get them killed or injured.

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Tim

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

AUCA Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 7, 2022



September 13-15, 2022
Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach

www.alabama.damagepreventionsummit.com



***AUCA 2022 Fall General Meeting
& Sporting Clay Shoot***
Thursday, October 13, 2022
Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club
Montgomery, AL



***AUCA 2023 Spring General Meeting,
Golf Tournament and Shrimp & Crawfish Boil***
Thursday, April 20, 2023
Arrowhead Country Club
Montgomery, AL

AUCA Industry Lunch Meetings
Dates and Locations To Be Announced





AUCA 2022 Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot

Thursday, October 13, 2022

Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club

1758 Lower Wetumpka Road Montgomery, AL 36110

Morning Sporting Clay Shoot - 9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

General Meeting & Steak Lunch - 11:00 a.m.

Door Prizes & Raffle Drawing - 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sporting Clay Shoot - 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start



General Meeting & Steak Lunch

Cost: \$20/Non-Shooters

(Lunch Included with Clay Shoot Registration or Sponsorship)

Come network with your peers, win great door prizes, and enjoy a delicious steak lunch while listening to our special guest speaker. We will also vote on the 2023 AUCA Officers and Board of Directors, and present the AUCA "Member of the Year" Awards.

Annual Sporting Clay Shoot

(Participants must provide their own Gun and Shells)

Complete attached Registration Form and return ASAP.

Corporate Sponsorship opportunities available.

Sign up now before the event sells out!



AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle

This year we are again raffling two great prizes that anyone can use:

Prize #1: \$1,000 Cash

Prize #2: \$500 Cash

Tickets are \$10 each and allow two (2) chances to win.

(You do not have to be present to win)

All money raised from the raffle will go towards the AUCA PAC Fund to help support our continued Legislative efforts in Montgomery and Washington.



OCTOBER 13, 2022 - EVENT REGISTRATION FORM



To register, please complete this form and return to the AUCA office by fax or email. A copy of the registration form should also be submitted with payment.

Registration Deadline is October 7, 2022

Company Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Contact Person: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email: _____

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT TEAM & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- GOLD TEAM SPONSOR - \$1,000 Includes: 4-man team, cart, lunch, company logo on AUCA website w/ link to sponsor's website, event signage, promotional materials, & four (4) station sponsorship
SILVER TEAM SPONSOR - \$750 Includes: 4-man team, cart, lunch, name recognition on AUCA website, event signage, promotional materials, & one (1) station sponsorship
4-PERSON TEAM - \$600 Includes: 4-man team, cart, lunch
BRONZE EVENT SPONSOR - \$250 Includes: Admission for two (2) company representatives to attend General Meeting Lunch, name recognition on AUCA website, event signage, one (1) station sponsorship, and may provide trappers on course to network with shooters and hand out company prizes or give-a-ways

TEAM MEMBERS:

1.) _____ 3.) _____
2.) _____ 4.) _____

MORNING SHOOT: _____ AFTERNOON SHOOT: _____

CART NEEDED: YES _____ NO _____

4-person golf carts provided for all teams (you may also bring your own cart/ATV)

You must provide your own shells (Factory shells only - #7-1/2 or higher shot load)

Safety rules must be followed; signed waiver required; ear plugs and eye protection required

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT TEAM PRIZES

1st Place Team: \$400 + Trophies 2nd Place Team: \$300 + Trophies 3rd Place Team: \$200 + Trophies

GENERAL MEETING LUNCH (INCLUDED w/ TEAM REGISTRATION or SPONSORSHIP)

General Meeting Lunch: \$20/Non-Shooter x Quantity () = \$ _____

PAYMENT REQUESTED BEFORE OR ON DAY OF EVENT! Return form and payment to:

Alabama Utility Contractors Association

P.O. Box 383185

Birmingham, Alabama 35238-3185

Phone: (205) 582-9436

Fax: (205) 582-9155

Email: tim@aluca.org



To pay by credit card, please contact the AUCA office at (205) 582-9436.

News & Notes:

OSHA Responds to "Alarming" Increase in Trench Deaths:

In 2022's first six months, 22 workers have fallen victim to the deadly hazards present in trenching and excavation work – surpassing 15 in all of 2021 – and prompting the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration to launch enhanced enforcement initiatives to protect workers from known industry hazards.

To stress the dangers of disregarding federal workplace safety requirements for trenching and excavation work, OSHA enforcement staff will consider every available tool at the agency's disposal. These actions will place additional emphasis on how agency officials evaluate penalties for trenching and excavation related incidents, including criminal referrals for federal or state prosecution to hold employers and others accountable when their actions or inactions kill workers or put their lives at risk.

In keeping with its National Emphasis Program for excavations, OSHA compliance officers will perform more than 1,000 trench inspections nationwide where they may stop by, and inspect, any excavation site during their daily duties.

"The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is calling on all employers engaged in trenching and excavation activities to act immediately to ensure that required protections are fully in place every single time their employees step down into or work near a trench," said Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Doug Parker. "In a matter of seconds, workers can be crushed and buried under thousands of pounds of soil and rocks in an unsafe trench. The alarming increase in the number of workers needlessly dying and suffering serious injuries in trenching incidents must be stopped."

"Every one of these tragedies could have been prevented had employers complied with OSHA standards," Parker continued. "There simply is no excuse for ignoring safety requirements to prevent trench collapses and cave-ins, and leaving families, friends and co-workers to grieve when the solutions are so well-understood."

A recent incident in central Texas highlights the dangers of trenching and an impetus for OSHA's action. On June 28, 2022, two workers, aged 20 and 39, suffered fatal injuries in Jarrell, Texas, when the unprotected trench more than 20 feet deep collapsed upon them as they worked. Trench shields, which could have saved their lives, sat unused beside the excavation.

Trenching and excavation operations require protective systems and inspections before workers can enter. When employers fail to install trench protection systems or properly inspect the trench, workers are exposed to serious hazards, including risk of being buried under thousands of pounds of soil. By some estimates, a cubic yard of soil can weigh as much as 3,000 pounds, equal to that of a compact car.

States that operate their own Occupational Safety and Health plan have similar emphasis programs in place, and OSHA also encourages those states to consider additional measures, including criminal



News & Notes:

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referrals for federal or state prosecution for trenching-related incidents.

Trenching standards require protective systems on trenches deeper than 5 feet and soil and other materials kept at least 2 feet from the edge of a trench. Additionally, trenches must be inspected by a knowledgeable person, be free of standing water and atmospheric hazards and have a safe means of entering and exiting prior to allowing a worker to enter.

"OSHA stands ready to assist any employer who needs help to comply with our trenching and excavation requirements," Parker added. "We will conduct outreach programs, including safety summits, in all of our 10 regions to help ensure any employer who wants assistance gets it. The stakes are too important."

OSHA's On-Site Consultation Program, a free and confidential health and safety consulting program for small- and medium-sized businesses, will assist employers in developing strategic approaches for addressing trench-related illnesses and injuries in workplaces.

The agency also urges workers to contact their local OSHA or state plan office, or call 800-321-OSHA, if their employer requires working in or beside trenches that are not sloped, shored, or shielded and are five or more feet in depth.

OSHA's trenching and excavation webpage provides additional information on trenching hazards and solutions, including a [safety video](#).

**PROTECT WORKERS
IN TRENCHES**

Prevent trench collapses and save lives:

- SLOPE** or bench trench walls,
- SHORE** trench walls with supports, or
- SHIELD** trench walls with trench boxes

OSHA
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

WWW.OSHA.GOV/TRENCHING • 800-321-OSHA (6742) • TTY 877-889-5627



TRENCHING SAFETY

5 Things You Should Know to Stay Safe



1 Ensure there's a safe way to enter and exit.
See 1926.651(c)



2 Trenches must have cave-in protection.
See 1926.652(a)

3 Keep materials away from the edge of the trench.
See 1926.651(j)



4 Look for standing water or other hazards.
See 1926.651(h)



5 Never enter a trench unless it has been properly inspected.
See 1926.651(k)



News & Notes:

Recognize Safe + Sound Week 2022: August 15-21, 2022

Safe + Sound Week is a nationwide event held each August that recognizes the successes of workplace health and safety programs and offers information and ideas on how to keep America's workers safe.



Why Participate?

Successful safety and health programs can proactively identify and manage workplace hazards before they cause injury or illness, improving sustainability and the bottom line. Participating in Safe + Sound Week can help get your program started, energize an existing one, or provide a chance to recognize your safety successes.

Who Participates?

All organizations looking for an opportunity to recognize their commitment to safety are welcome to participate. Last year, more than 5,300 businesses helped to raise awareness about workers' health and safety!

AUCA New Member Company:

Price Civil Services, Inc.

Vance, AL

Company Representative: Daniel Price

AUCA 2023 Board of Directors Nominations:

AUCA is soliciting the membership for candidates to serve on the 2023 AUCA Board of Directors. If you have someone in mind that you think would be an asset on the AUCA Board, please email us by August 31st to recommend them to the AUCA Nominating Committee. If you are interested in serving yourself, please feel free to list your name as well.

Nomination Forms are available in this Newsletter, and will also be sent out electronically to all member companies. The Nominating Committee will review the nomination forms of those desiring to serve on the 2023 Board at the September 7th AUCA Board Meeting. The proposed slate of nominees will be announced to the membership and the candidates will be voted on by the members in attendance at the October 13th Fall General Meeting in Montgomery.





2023 AUCA Board of Directors Nomination Form

The AUCA Nominating Committee is seeking interested AUCA members for consideration to serve on the 2023 AUCA Board of Directors. Please complete the form and return to the AUCA office no later than August 31, 2022 to indicate your willingness to serve on the AUCA Board, or to nominate an individual member you know who would like to serve.

The Nominating Committee will review the nomination forms of any member desiring to serve on the 2023 Board at the September 7, 2022 AUCA Board of Directors Meeting. The proposed slate of nominees will be announced to the full membership 30 days prior to the October 13, 2022 AUCA Fall General Meeting.

NOMINATION FORM – I (we) would like to nominate the following:

Name Company

Name Company

Name Company

Name Company

Nominated by: _____
Name Company

Please email form to tim@aluca.org or fax to 205-582-9155 by August 31, 2022

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

(334) 242-7100
FAX: (334) 242-3282

STATE OF ALABAMA

June 23, 2022

Mr. Tim Ayers
Alabama Utility Contractors Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 383185
Birmingham, Alabama 35238-3185

Dear Mr. Ayers:

By this letter, I hereby appoint you to the Architecture and Construction Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Alabama Committee on Credentialing and Career Pathways (ACCCP) representing workforce development region four, effective immediately. You will serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

At the discretion of the co-chairs of the ACCCP, you may be reassigned to another TAC, based on need. Serving on a TAC of the ACCCP is an opportunity to help improve the lives of Alabamians across the State by identifying the in-demand occupations and credentials of value that will lead to family-sustaining wages and continued economic growth.

I have made honesty and integrity a priority in my Administration, and I know that you will embody these two virtues while serving the people of Alabama. Please plan to attend all meetings within reason, be a good steward of the taxpayers' money, and work in your position to instill trust in state government. The responsibility that comes with this appointment is not to be taken lightly. I trust that you will rise to the occasion and set a standard for others to follow.

I appreciate you serving in this capacity, and I am confident you will render valuable service to the citizens of Alabama.

Sincerely,

Kay Ivey
Governor

KI/nl/em

cc: Ms. Michele Brown
Ms. Nita Carter



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

From Dan Kennedy - Chairman CWCC & Sante Esposito - Key Advocates

July 2022 Insights

FY23 "Water" Appropriations

On June 20, the House Appropriations Committee approved its FY23 Interior Appropriations Bill which provides \$1.752B for the Clean Water SRF, \$1.126B for the Safe Drinking Water SRF and \$72M for WIFIA – all in addition to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding amounts. Per the Coalition's 2022 Priority list, support for FY23 Clean Water SRF appropriations of at least \$1.63B and Safe Drinking Water SRF appropriations of at least \$1.10B is included – the Committee approved FY23 bill exceeds both.

On June 21, the House Appropriations Committee approved its FY23 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill which includes \$451M for water resources projects including WIIN grant projects (breakdown to be included in the Committee report).

FY23 "Transportation" Appropriations

On June 22, the House Appropriations Committee released its FY23 Transportation Appropriations Bill that includes:

- \$775M for national infrastructure investments (RAISE/TIGER/BUILD), including \$30M for grants to assist areas of persistent poverty and \$100M for the Thriving Communities program;
- Research and technology funding to create more equitable access to transportation systems, combat climate change, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- \$18.7B for the FAA, including \$1.6B for aviation safety and \$273M for airport improvement grants and projects;
- \$61.3B for the FHWA formula programs including \$1.8B for discretionary highway programs and projects;
- \$874M for FMCSA and \$1.2B for NHTSA to make cars, trucks and roads safer;
- \$3.8B for FRA including \$555M for the Intercity Passenger Rail grant program, \$630M for the CRISI grants program, and \$2.3B for Amtrak, including \$882M for the Northeast Corridor and \$1.5B for National Network grants;
- \$17.5B for the FTA, including \$13.6B for buses, \$3B for capital investment grants, and \$646M for transit infrastructure grants; and,
- \$987M for MARAD.

Note: no Senate Appropriations Committee FY23 action to date.

"Build Back Better" Bills (BBB)

Reached out to staff of the Senate Democratic Leadership, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW), and House Majority Leader to get their latest on a Senate Build Back Better bill. Senate Democratic Leadership staff still optimistic on getting a bill although much scaled back from the House version (less funding than the House bill, exclusion of child care or if included, at a much reduced funding amount, and tax reform). Notwithstanding the view of some stakeholders that Memorial Day was the drop dead day for a bill deal, Leadership staff believes they have the rest of the



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

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year if need be, given that they hold a technical majority regardless of the November election results. In addition, they noted that discussions are still on-going between the White House and Senate Democratic leaders regarding the Manchin situation. Staff of EPW also believes that there will be a Senate bill and is sticking to its December 2021 draft text as its title to such bill. Staff of the House Majority Leader said the House Democrats are anxious for a bill, have conveyed that to the Senate Democratic Leadership but can only wait to see what happens in the Senate. Included in the House-passed bill of interest are the following -

- \$30B for Safe Drinking Water SRF lead service line replacement projects;
- \$100M for state public water systems;
- \$700M to reduce lead in school drinking water;
- \$100M for large scale water recycling projects;
- \$1.15B for emergency drought relief;
- \$125M for Alternative Water Source Program grants;
- \$2B for sewer overflow and storm water reuse grants.
- \$4B for reduction of carbon in the surface transportation sector;
- \$4B for affordable and safe transportation access;
- \$6B for local surface transportation projects; and,
- \$2B for sewer overflow and storm water reuse grants.

No funding for the Clean Water SRF is included in the House BBB. It does include new taxes.

Unofficially last December the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee released its BBB title which includes \$9B for SDWSRF-funded lead remediation projects, \$225M for rural and low-income water assistance grants, \$125M for Alternative Water Source Program grants, and \$500M for sewer overflow and storm water reuse municipal grant

“Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act” (BIF)

The \$1.2T law (P.L. 117-58) includes the following (it does not include any new taxes) –

- For FY22-26 \$12.838B for the Clean Water State SRF, starting at \$2.127B in FY22 and going up to \$2.828B in FY26;
- \$35.713B over five years for the Safe Drinking Water SRF, starting at \$6.702B in FY22 and going up to \$7.403B in FY26;
- No appropriations are included for the Alternative Water Source Projects program (an authorization of \$125M over 5 fiscal years is included);
- \$8.3B for the USBR for FY22-26 with an annual cap of \$1.66B per year including a number of programs under USBR’s jurisdiction with specific appropriated amounts but without specifying annual funding amounts for each program;
- For water recycling, the bill appropriates \$1B over 5 FY’s, broken down to \$550M for Title XVI and WIIN Act grants and \$450M for “large scale” projects (those with project costs >\$500M);
- \$400M over 5 FY’s for WaterSMART;



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

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- \$1.2B for water storage and groundwater;
- \$25M for desalination; and,
- S. 914, as passed by the Senate, which authorizes \$14.65B over five fiscal years for the Clean Water SRF and the Safe Drinking Water SRF, and \$125M for the AWSP and which includes the Feinstein-Padilla amendment which limits the prohibition against applying for Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP) grants to USBR projects that received construction funds; and,

Other core infrastructure -

- \$65B for Broadband
- \$17B for Ports
- \$25B for Airports
- \$7.5B for Zero and Low-Emission Buses and Ferries
- \$7.5B for Plug-In Electric Vehicle Chargers
- \$65B to Rebuild the Electric Grid
- \$21B for Superfund and Brownfield sites

Highway Bill (FAST Act reauthorization)

The Senate FAST Act reauthorization bill is included in the enacted BIF. It authorizes \$287B in highway spending, ninety percent of which would be distributed to the states by formula. It also authorizes \$10.8B for various programs addressing resiliency and \$2.5B for electric, hydrogen, and natural gas vehicle charging and fueling stations. It provides billions for curbing emissions, reducing congestion and truck idling. It also streamlines infrastructure permitting and sets a two-year target for environmental reviews. Lastly, the bill authorizes \$12.5M per year to fund state and regional pilot testing of user-based alternative revenue mechanisms to the gas tax.

President's FY23 Budget Proposed "Water" Budget/FY23 Congressional Budget Resolution

On March 28, the President released his FY23 Budget. It includes \$1.638.8B for the Clean Water SRF, \$1.126.1B for the Safe Drinking Water SRF, and \$4M for Title XVI. See last line below - amounts are in addition to the SRF funding in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The Budget provides roughly \$4B for water infrastructure, an increase of \$1B over the 2021 enacted level. These resources would advance efforts to upgrade drinking water and wastewater infrastructure nationwide, with a focus on underserved communities that have historically been overlooked. The budget funds all of the authorizations in the original Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, including the creation of 20 new targeted water grant programs and an increase of over \$160M above 2021 enacted levels for the Reducing Lead in Drinking Water grant program. The budget also maintains funding for EPA's State Revolving Funds (SRF) at 2021 enacted levels, which would complement the \$23.4B provided for the traditional SRF programs in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

(Continued from page 13)

The next step in the budget/appropriations process is passage of the FY23 Congressional Budget Resolution which sets overall spending for FY23 for each Appropriations Subcommittee. The finding levels are set for each major area of the budget, called functions. Function 300, Natural Resources, is where all the water programs are included. The goal is to secure the highest funding levels for the Function to support subsequent appropriations. The budget resolution is not a law but it must be passed by both Houses.

President's FY23 Proposed "Transportation" Budget

The budget provides \$68.9B for the Federal-aid Highway program, a \$19.8B increase from the 2021 enacted level. This includes \$9.4B provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for FY23 and which also supports \$8B for new competitive and formula grant programs to rebuild the Nation's bridges; \$1.4B to deploy a nationwide, publicly-accessible network of electric vehicle chargers and other alternative fueling infrastructure; \$1.3B for a new carbon reduction grant program; and \$1.7B for a new resiliency grant program to enhance the resilience of surface transportation infrastructure to hazards and climate change. The budget also provides more than \$2.5B for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, an \$857M increase above the FY22 enacted level. Lastly, to strengthen the Nation's transit systems, reduce emissions, and improve transportation access for people with disabilities and historically disadvantaged communities, the budget provides the Federal Transit Administration with \$21.1B, an \$8.2B increase over the FY22 level.

FY22 "Water" Appropriations

On March 15, the President signed into law the FY22 Omnibus Appropriations Act funding all 12 appropriations bills for the remainder of the current fiscal year. Included in the bill are \$1.638B for the Clean Water SRF, \$1.126B for the Safe Drinking Water SRF, \$35.693M for the traditional Title XVI program, and \$17.5M for Title XVI WIIN grants. These funding amounts are over and above those included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - \$2.127B for the Clean Water SRF, \$6.702B for the Safe Drinking Water SRF, and \$500M for Title XVI and the Title XVI WINN programs combined. As a result, for the current fiscal year total funding for the Clean Water SRF is \$3.765B, \$7.828 for the Safe Drinking Water SRF, and \$553.193M for both Title XVI programs.

FY22 "Transportation" Appropriations

The bill provides a total of \$102.9B for DOT – an increase of \$16.2B above the FY21 level. It includes \$775M for national infrastructure investments (RAISE/TIGER/BUILD) grants; \$57.5B for Federal Highway Administration formula programs; \$2.4B for highway infrastructure programs and projects; \$856M for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and \$1.2 billion for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to make trucks, cars, and the Nation's roads safer; \$625M for the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements grant program; \$2.3B for Amtrak; \$16.3B for the Federal Transit Administration, including \$13.4 billion for transit formula grants; \$2.3B for Capital Investment Grants; and, \$504.3M for transit infrastructure grants and projects.



Health & Safety:

Provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Diseases Carried by Vectors

Climate is one of the factors that influence the distribution of diseases borne by vectors (such as fleas, ticks, and mosquitoes, which spread pathogens that cause illness). The geographic and seasonal distribution of vector populations, and the diseases they can carry, depends not only on climate but also on land use, socioeconomic and cultural factors, pest control, access to health care, and human responses to disease risk, among other factors. Daily, seasonal, or year-to-year climate variability can sometimes result in vector/pathogen adaptation and shifts or expansions in their geographic ranges. Such shifts can alter disease incidence depending on vector-host interaction, host immunity, and pathogen evolution.



North Americans are currently at risk from numerous vector-borne diseases, including Lyme, dengue fever, West Nile virus disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, plague, and tularemia. Vector-borne pathogens not currently found in the United States, such as chikungunya, Chagas disease, and Rift Valley fever viruses, are also threats.

A changing climate's impact on the geographical distribution and incidence of vector-borne diseases in other countries where these diseases are already found can also impact North Americans, especially as a result of increasing trade with, and travel to, tropical and subtropical areas. Whether a changing climate in the U.S. will increase the chances of domestically acquiring diseases such as dengue fever is uncertain due to vector-control efforts and lifestyle factors, such as time spent indoors, that reduce human-insect contact.

Infectious disease transmission is sensitive to local, small-scale differences in weather, human modification of the landscape, the diversity of animal hosts, and human behavior that affects vector-human contact, among other factors. Finer-scale, long-term studies are needed to help quantify the relationships among weather variables, vector range, and vector-borne pathogen occurrence; the consequences of shifting distributions of vectors and pathogens; and the impacts on human behavior. Enhanced vector surveillance and human disease tracking are needed to address these concerns.

Watch a short video about disease vectors, and how communities can defend against them:

[Climate and Health Videos | CDC](#)





OSHA ALERT

Prevent Heat Illness at Work

Outdoor and indoor heat exposure can be dangerous.

Nearly 3 out of 4 heat illness fatalities happen during the first week of work. New and returning workers need to build tolerance to heat by taking frequent breaks and working shorter shifts in the heat to start.

Dangerous heat exposure can occur indoors or outdoors, in any season. Employers can keep workers safe by following these simple safety practices:

- **Follow the 20% Rule** — on the 1st day, don't allow employees to work more than 20% of a shift at full intensity in the heat. Increase their time by no more than 20% a day until they are used to working in the heat.
- **Provide cool drinking water** – encourage workers to drink at least one cup every 20 minutes, even if they are not thirsty.
- **Rest breaks** — allow workers time to recover from heat in a shady or cool location.
- **Dress for the heat** — have workers wear a hat and light-colored, loose-fitting, breathable clothing if possible.
- **Watch out for each other** — encourage workers to monitor themselves and others for signs of heat illness.
- **Look for any signs of heat illness**, including fainting, dizziness, nausea, and muscle spasms, and act quickly — when in doubt, **call 911**.
- **Offer training** on the hazards of heat exposure and how to prevent illness.
- **Develop an Emergency Action Plan** on what to do if a worker shows signs of heat-related illness.



To learn more about heat illness prevention and first aid, visit www.osha.gov/heat.

OSHA alerts are issued on occasion to draw attention to worker safety and health issues and solutions.

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E-mail: tim@aluca.org

***AUCA IS A MEMBER-DRIVEN, NEEDS
FOCUSED TRADE ASSOCIATION CREATED
SOLELY TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE
UTILITY INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF
ALABAMA.***

**We're on the Web !
www.aluca.org**

Please print out this newsletter to share with others in your company. And, if you are receiving this for the company owner, please print out a copy for him/her.

**Let AUCA Be Your Source For All Your
Training Needs**

Contact the Association Office for more information

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