

## ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

**TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**JULY 2024**



### **Director's Comments:**

The month of July has certainly been interesting. We celebrated 248 years since the birth of our nation, then saw an assassination attempt on former President and current candidate Trump. President Biden decided to suspend his reelection campaign due to his declining health. I will spare you my thoughts as to whether or not he's ever been cognitively up for the job, or if he can even physically make it across the finish line of this current term.

Speaking of finish lines, Maury Gaston has retired after a stellar 42-year career with AMERICAN Cast Iron Pipe. As we continue to lose great leaders from our industry, it is imperative that we groom the next generation to fill their shoes. In order for that to happen, we have to ensure that we are providing training and opportunities for sufficient growth and service.

Calhoun Community College is attempting to develop a unique program to promote the Gas/Water/Wastewater Utility industry to potential candidates looking to enter the field. The program is intended to provide a general working knowledge and entry level skillset to be a viable field candidate for the local/regional utility providers and contractors. Go Build Alabama is also hosting two hiring events in August to connect employers with job candidates.

For those already with experience in our industry, there are other ways to give back. You can mentor someone new to the industry, and you can volunteer to serve on a Board. AUCA is opening the process for candidates for the 2025 AUCA Board of Directors. Alabama 811 is currently looking for qualified individuals to serve on their Advisory Council, as well as their Legislative Committee to review potential improvements and updates to the current Alabama Underground Damage Prevention law.

Training and leadership are crucial because they provide stability and direction amidst change. I hope you will consider answering the call to serve!

*Tim*

#### **Inside This Issue:**

Upcoming Events	2-4
News & Notes	5-11
CWCC Report	12-13
Health & Safety	14-18

*Upcoming Meetings & Events:*

***AUCA Industry Lunch Meetings***  
Dates and Locations To Be Announced

---

***AUCA Board of Directors Meeting***  
Thursday, September 5, 2024

---



**The Lodge at Gulf State Park - Gulf Shores, AL**  
**Tuesday, September 17 - Thursday, September 19, 2024**

---



***AUCA 2024 Fall General Meeting***  
***& Sporting Clay Shoot***  
**Thursday, October 10, 2024**  
**Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club**  
**Montgomery, AL**



***AUCA 2025 Spring General Meeting,***  
***Golf Tournament and Shrimp & Crawfish Boil***  
**Thursday, April 24, 2025**  
**Arrowhead Country Club**  
**Montgomery, AL**





## AUCA 2024 Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot

**Thursday, October 10, 2024**

**Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club  
4758 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: \$25/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 2025 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 10, 2024 - 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 3, 2024

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: \$25/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:

### **Underground Utility Certification Program - Calhoun Community College:**

A regional utility meeting will be held on July 31st, 2024 at 12 p.m. at the Calhoun Community College - Advanced Technology Center (ATC) building. This meeting will be to review an opportunity to create a Certification Program with Calhoun and promote the Gas/Water/Wastewater Utility industry to potential candidates, providing them with a general working knowledge and entry level skillset to be a viable field candidate for the local/regional utility providers and contractors.

### **Calhoun Community College Gas/Water/Wastewater Proposed Training Curriculum**

#### **General Utility Construction Safety/Certification/License Module**

- Competent Person Training
  - Soil Classification
  - Trench/Shoring Safety
  - OHSA Excavation Standards
- Confined Space
  - Permitting
  - Hazardous Atmospheres
  - Ventilation/SCBA
- CDL-A License Acquisition w/ Tankers Endorsement
- PPE
- CPR/First Aid Training

#### **General Tool/Equipment Training Module**

- Small Tools (wrenches, screwdrivers, shovels, rakes, hammers, etc.)
- Power Tools/Equipment (concrete saws, impacts, jackhammer, Plate Tamp, Jumping Jack, etc.)
- Pipe Cutting (chain saw, Guillotine saw, Pneumatic/Hydraulic pipe cutter)
- Heavy Equipment (Desktop and Field Training)
  - Skid Steer
  - Backhoe
  - Mini Excavator & Excavator
  - Front End Loader

#### **Utility Specific Module**

- Gas Pipe Fusion/Welding
  - Butt Fusion
  - Stub Fittings
  - Sidewall Fusion
- Gas/Water/Wastewater Materials & Applications
  - Pipe Material: Ductile Iron, Cast Iron, PVC, HDPE, Copper, Clay
  - Services: Copper, HDPE, PVC
  - Fire Hydrants
  - Valves (Gate Butterfly, Plug, Ball, etc.) & Fittings (Tee, 90, 45, 22.5, 11.25, MJ, Flange, etc.)
  - Manholes
  - Slope determination with pipe laser, grade rod/level
  - Pipe & Service Installation for all 3 applications

#### **Pre-employment Prep**

- Resume Creation
- Mock Interviews
- Basics of job searching, career planning, and transitioning from student to employee



## News & Notes:

### Go Build Alabama Construction Hiring Events:

The new Go Build Alabama Job Board is going strong with over 40 employers, and 57 active job postings representing all the major areas of the state. Also, they have over 700 career seekers registered on the site. To capitalize, Go Build will be hosting two upcoming hiring events in Huntsville and Birmingham.

The Go Build Huntsville Hiring Event will be held on August 8th at the Jaycee's Community Building. Currently, 20 employers have signed up to participate, but space is still available for any additional companies that are interested.

The Go Build Birmingham Area hiring event will be held on August 23rd at Lawson State Community - Bessemer Campus.

The below flyers have a QR code for easy sign-up:

**GO BUILD HUNTSVILLE HIRING EVENT**

**FREE! NO COST FOR EMPLOYERS TO PARTICIPATE!**

**Who:** Alabama Licensed Commercial or Industrial Construction Employers

**What:** Interview and Hire Potential Employees for Your Open Positions

**Date:** August 8, 2024

**Location:** Jaycee Community Building  
2200 Jaycee Way Southwest  
Huntsville, AL 35801

**Time:** 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Register:** [Registration Link](#) or Scan QR Code



**INTERVIEW AND HIRE ON THE SPOT!**

**GO BUILD BIRMINGHAM AREA HIRING EVENT**

**FREE! NO COST FOR EMPLOYERS TO PARTICIPATE!**

**Who:** Alabama Licensed Commercial or Industrial Construction Employers

**What:** Interview and Hire Potential Employees for Your Open Positions

**Date:** August 23, 2024

**Location:** Lawson State Community College - Bessemer Campus - The Millsap Building  
1100 9th Avenue SW  
Bessemer, AL 35022

**Time:** 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Register:** [Registration Link](#) or Scan QR Code



**INTERVIEW AND HIRE ON THE SPOT!**



# ACRI Job Board Employers



## 1. What is the new Job Board offering on the Go Build Alabama website?

- ▶ The Go Build Alabama Job Board gives career seekers a central location to easily search for job opportunities from Alabama-licensed commercial and industrial construction employers. From skilled craft/field positions to administrative to sales, this job board offers a streamlined user experience for both the applicant and employer. Career seekers only upload their profile once to have their information dynamically populate the jobs they apply to, speeding up the tedious process of job-hunting online. Employers get a comprehensive view of interested and targeted applicants, can rate applicants on a star system for a convenient overview of qualifications, and even add recruitment notes. Email reminders and notifications are also incorporated, keeping you in the loop even when you aren't logged in.

## 2. How do I create an account and post my open positions?

- ▶ To take advantage of this free resource, visit [jobs.gobuildalabama.com](http://jobs.gobuildalabama.com) and click the "Employers" button in the website's header. Once you've clicked the "Employers" button, you will be taken to a registration page to share basic information about yourself and your company. Once you sign up and confirm your email address, you can update your company page with additional information, including social media links, company overview, logo, etc., while your company is pending approval. Once your company has been approved by the team at ACRI, you can start posting jobs and hiring qualified leads!

## 3. How can I best use the Go Build Alabama Job Board for my company?

- ▶ This job board was developed with companies, recruiters and career seekers in mind! Our goal is to make it as easy as possible to post your open positions and rank qualified leads. We recommend having at least three open jobs on the job board and being as descriptive as possible as you explain job requirements, education and qualifications. You can add details about your job opening such as type of job (travel, on-site, hybrid, etc.), location of position (city, state, permanent, seasonal, apprenticeship, training, etc.), and even pay expectations (hourly, salary, competitive, range). Giving an applicant as much information as possible increases your chance of gathering interested, qualified leads that will last. We also hope you find value in the built-in internal review process by adding relevant notes and rating applicants. While this is not built to replace your current hiring or HR processes, we do hope this acts as a support tool for your team.

## 4. I've signed up as a company through the employer form, when can I expect to be approved?

- ▶ We are so excited you've decided to join! Our ACRI team is small but mighty, and you should expect to receive a notification about your company approval in three to five business days.

- ▶ Visit [jobs.gobuildalabama.com](http://jobs.gobuildalabama.com) to take advantage of this free resource.

## News & Notes:

### **BMSS Presents: A Construction Industry Update**

AUCA member BMSS will be providing an insightful program via Zoom on Thursday, August 8th. A team of professionals will discuss the latest trends in the construction industry including strategies and regulatory updates crucial for navigating today's complex business landscape.

**Thursday, August 8, 2024**

**8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**

[Registration Link](#)

*\*In order to receive CPE credit, you must be registered with your first and last name and provide a valid email address. You will also need to respond to the polling questions throughout the duration of the training.*



### **Participate in Safe + Sound Week 2024: August 12-18**

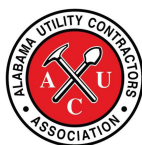
Safe + Sound Week is a nationwide event held each August that recognizes the successes of workplace health and safety programs and offers information and ideas on how to keep America's workers safe. This year Safe + Sound Week will provide resources for businesses on Job Hazard Analysis (JHA). These materials will be posted before the start of Safe + Sound Week. Please check back soon!

#### **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 3,900 businesses helped to raise awareness about workers' health and safety!



## News & Notes:

### **Alabama 811 Committee Opportunities:**

Alabama 811 is looking to renew the Advisory Council as support for the AL811 mission and member involvement. The Advisory Council will look to initially meet quarterly and will be made up of designated stakeholder representation.

The Alabama 811 Advisory Council serves as a valuable knowledge base to further the mission of Alabama 811. Members of the Advisory Council provides service to the mission by providing the organization with their professional expertise; their diverse knowledge of constituent perspectives; their connections to local, national or international resources, colleagues or peers; or other forms of needed assistance. The Advisory Council has no governing function within the organization.

If you are interested in being considered, please complete the nomination form at:

<https://form.jotform.com/Alabama811/AdvisoryCouncil>

Alabama 811 is also reinstating the Legislative Committee to review potential improvements and updates to the current Alabama Underground Damage Prevention legislation.

If you are interested in serving on the Legislative Committee, please contact:

Annette Bowman  
Alabama 811 Executive Director  
abowman@al811.com  
205.731.3209



---

### **AUCA 2025 Board of Directors Nominations:**

AUCA will be soliciting the membership for candidates to serve on the 2025 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 2025 Board at the September 5th 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 10th Fall General Meeting in Montgomery.





## 2025 AUCA Board of Directors Nomination Form

The AUCA Nominating Committee is seeking interested AUCA members for consideration to serve on the 2025 AUCA Board of Directors. Please complete the form and return to the AUCA office no later than August 31, 2024 to indicate your willingness to serve on the AUCA Board, or to nominate an individual member you know who would like to serve.

Nomination forms of any member desiring to serve on the 2025 Board will be reviewed at the September 5, 2024 AUCA Board of Directors Meeting. The proposed slate of nominees will be announced to the full membership 30 days prior to the October 10, 2024 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](mailto:tim@aluca.org) or fax to 205-582-9155 by August 31, 2024

## News & Notes:



*On June 28th, Warrior Tractor & Equipment hosted a retirement party in Birmingham for David Pearson. David retired after 35 years with Warrior and a career total of 49 years and 9 months in the John Deere equipment business. We certainly hopes that David enjoys his well earned retirement, but still manages to make time to attend some of our future AUCA events.*

### **Notice of ADEM Director Job Performance Evaluation:**

The Alabama Environmental Management Commission (Commission) is providing the opportunity for interested persons to submit written comments on Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Director Lance LeFleur's job performance as part of the Commission's upcoming ADEM Director Job Performance Evaluation.

Written comments from interested persons regarding Director LeFleur's job performance should be directed to: A. Frank McFadden , Chair, Alabama Environmental Management Commission, P.O. Box 301463, Montgomery, AL 36130-1463 (street address: 1400 Coliseum Boulevard, Montgomery, AL 36110-2400) or by e-mail at [aemc@adem.alabama.gov](mailto:aemc@adem.alabama.gov). Written comments should include "ADEM Director Job Performance Evaluation" as the subject of the written submissions.

Written comments for the current ADEM Director Job Performance Evaluation should cover the period from October 14, 2023, to July 31, 2024, the deadline for receipt of comments for the upcoming evaluation.

Written comments must be received in the Commission Office prior to 5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2024.



## *Clean Water Construction Coalition Report*

From Ryan Sharpe - Chairman CWCC & Sante Esposito - Key Advocates

**July 1, 2024**

### **FY25 Appropriations Funding for SRFs, WIIN Grants**

Markups for the House Appropriations bills that fund State Revolving Funds (SRFs) and Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) grants took place last week.

Under the subcommittee markups, the Clean Water SRFs would receive \$1.2 billion, which includes \$649 million in state allocations and \$553 million for earmarks. The Safe Drinking Water SRFs would be allotted \$883 million, with \$404 million in state allocations and \$479 million for earmarks.

Both bills are scheduled for a full Committee vote next week with House Republicans aiming for full House approval in August. The Democrat-controlled Senate opposes the spending cuts in these measures and instead, wants to increasing appropriations to account for inflation. The Senate has not yet scheduled a vote on the Appropriations bills and it is likely a continuing resolution will be used to avoid a government shutdown.

The Clean Water Construction Coalition (CWCC) is one of the organizations endorsing lawmakers' efforts to increase SRF funding and prevent the use of earmarks as a takedown from state allocations. The CWCC is also encouraging Coalition members to provide letters from their organizations supporting these efforts.

### **CWCC Funding Requests**

The CWCC is advocating for an allocation of at least \$4.49 billion for the Clean Water SRFs, \$4.37 billion for the Safe Drinking Water SRFs and \$20 million for WIIN Grants. The Coalition opposes the use of earmarks and if earmarks are used, they should not reduce base SRF funding.

### **House Republican Budget Proposal**

House Republicans have not backed off from their support of imposing drastic spending cuts over the next ten years. Their resolution to cap spending growth at one percent a year and reduce discretionary spending by over \$2 trillion has not been considered since it was marked up in March.

### **Final FY24 Appropriations and Earmarks**

For Fiscal Year 2024, the state allocations are \$851 million for the Clean Water SRFs, \$494 million for the Safe Drinking Water SRFs and \$20 million for WIIN Grants.

The Clean Water SRF earmarks are \$787 million which is a takedown from the base allocation of \$1.63 billion. The Safe Drinking Water SRF earmarks are \$631 million which is a reduction from the \$1.12 billion base allocation.



## *Clean Water Construction Coalition Report*

*(Continued from page 12)*

### **Other Issues**

The Coalition continues to support a new version of S. 2162, the "STREAM Act", which is still being drafted. The Act would provide \$750 million for surface and groundwater storage and conveyance projects, \$300 million for water recycling, \$250 million for environmental restoration projects, \$150 million for desalination projects and \$100 million for drinking water projects in disadvantaged communities.

No action has been taken on the Garamendi Amendment which would allow the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to issue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for public works projects for up to 10 years instead of five years. The CWCC is listed as an endorsing organization of this amendment.

The "DROUGHT Act of 2024", which would increase the federal share of Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) funding in disadvantaged communities and areas experiencing extreme droughts still awaits Committee action in both houses.

The CWCC continues to pursue additional funding for the Alternative Water Source Program and for mega recycled water projects.



[cleanwaterconstructioncoalition.org](http://cleanwaterconstructioncoalition.org)

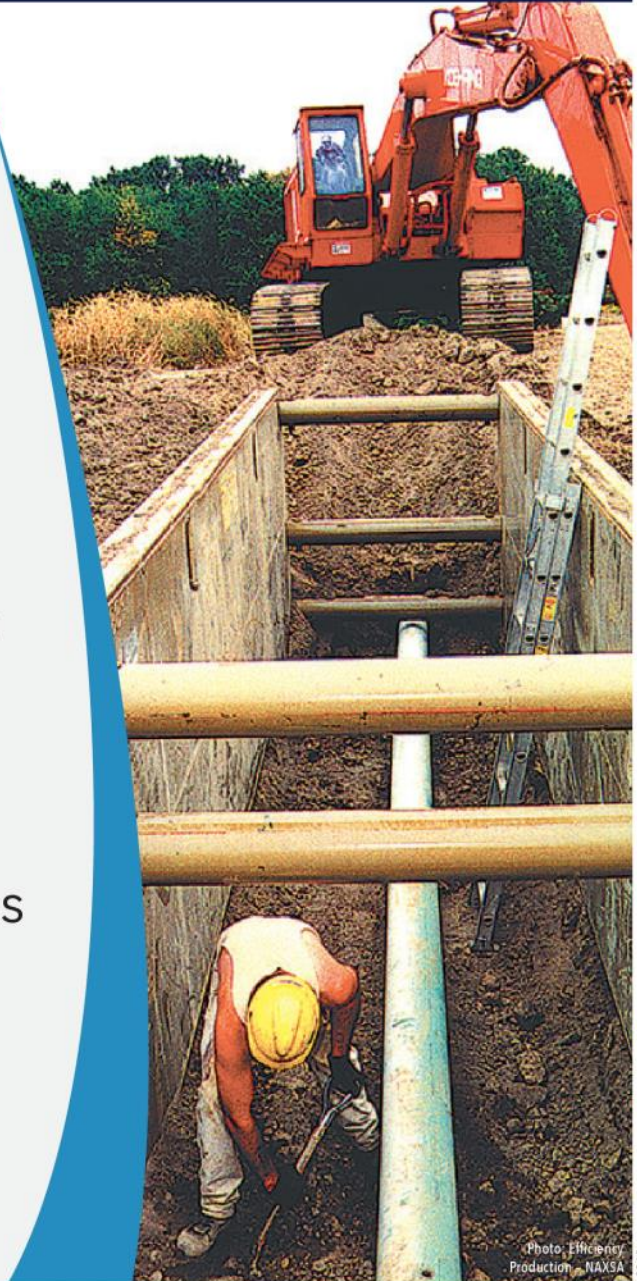
# PROTECT WORKERS IN TRENCHES

Prevent trench collapses and save lives:

**SLOPE** or bench trench walls,

**SHORE** trench walls with supports, or

**SHIELD** trench walls with trench boxes



U.S. Department of Labor



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

Photo: Efficiency  
Production - NAXSA

OSHA 3215-06R 2018

## Fleet Safety:

*Provided by Marsh McLennan Agency - Southeast Risk Control Services*

### Schools Are Opening Back Up – Please Drive Carefully

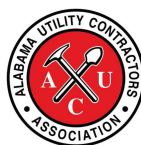
Summer break is ending and school age kids will soon be going back to school all over the country. This means that our more relaxed daily commutes in areas near schools are getting ready to be a little more hectic. Areas around schools will be especially heavy with the private passenger vehicles, school buses, and childcare center vans and buses all converging to and from the schools twice a day. As if all of that additional vehicle traffic was not enough to challenge your Defensive Driving skills, It is also important to note that some of those private vehicles that we encounter will be driven by new drivers who got their license over the summer. Although the start of a new school year is an exciting time for kids and their parents, it is also a dangerous time, and it's extremely important for us to really focus on being a safe driver.

### Neighborhood and School Zones – Safe Driving Tips

- **ALLOW ADDITIONAL TRAVEL TIME** – When traveling through or near school zones, allow yourself enough additional time so that you don't feel pressured to rush while you are driving.
- **SLOW DOWN** – Speed limits in neighborhoods and school zones are reduced for a reason. The kids walking or riding their bikes to school can be distracted and unpredictable; and at lower speeds you have more time to react to a young pedestrian or bike rider's mistakes.
- **ELIMINATE DISTRACTIONS** – Research shows that taking your eyes off the road for just two seconds doubles your chances of being involved in an accident. Children move quickly, and can cross a street unexpectedly or dart into your path suddenly from between parked cars or from other blind spots.
- **WATCH THOSE YOUNG BIKE RIDERS CAREFULLY** – Young children on bikes are often inexperienced, unsteady and therefore unpredictable. Slow down and give them plenty of room.
- **DON'T BLOCK CROSSWALKS** – Stopping in crosswalks may force kids to walk around your vehicle and increase the chance that they might be hit by traffic crossing in front of you.
- **COME TO A COMPLETE STOP** - Many drivers roll through stop signs in neighborhoods and school zones when kids are not present to save a few seconds. This is illegal and a bad habit, and you should always come to a complete stop, checking carefully for children on sidewalks and in crosswalks before proceeding.
- **SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS** – Be aware of their presence and follow their direction.
- **REVERSE RESPONSIBLY** – Try to avoid parking in a position that requires you to reverse upon departure. Every vehicle has blind spots, so if you must back up, check carefully for children all around your vehicle, use a spotter if available, start slowly and tap your horn.

### Drive Safely Around School Busses

It is estimated that over 25 million students begin and end their day with a trip on a school bus. While NHTSA research indicates that riding a bus to school is safer than riding in the family automobile, there are children injured and killed each school year in accidents related to "bus transportation." Research by the National Safety Council reports that most of the children who lose their lives in "bus related incidents" are 4 to 7 years old and are killed not in motor vehicle accidents, but while

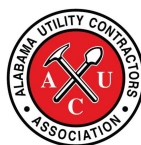


## Fleet Safety:

(Continued from page 15)

walking near the bus. The research further indicates that the children killed are usually either hit by a bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a bus, so remember the following Defensive Driving tips when operating your vehicle near school buses:

- Never pass a stopped school bus unloading children, even if you are traveling in the opposite direction on an undivided road (note that some jurisdictions can cite you even if there is a median separating lanes).
- It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that has stopped to load or unload children. Convictions for this offense carry significant financial penalties and many potential employers will not hire a driver who has this type of conviction on their Motor Vehicle Record.
- If the yellow or red lights on a bus are flashing and the stop arm is extended from the side of the bus, all traffic must stop.
- Even when lights aren't flashing, watch for children around school zones, particularly in the morning or mid-afternoon.
- Be alert as you back out of a driveway or drive through a neighborhood school zone or bus stop. Remember that children are unpredictable and don't always think about potential consequences.
- There is a 10' area around a school bus that is the most dangerous for children, so keep clear as far away as you can to allow children to safely enter and exit the bus.
- Maintain a minimum of a 3 second following distance behind buses, as they make frequent stops.
- Be a friend to the bus driver – they need more room to maneuver those big buses. Do you what you can to assist by **leaving space for them to turn**, merge, and get those children safely to their destination.





# 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



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

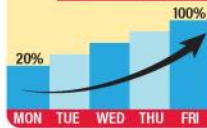


# Prevent Heat Illness at Work

Outdoor and indoor heat exposure can be dangerous.

## Ways to Protect Yourself and Others

**Ease into Work.** Nearly 3 out of 4 fatalities from heat illness happen during the first week of work.



- ✓ **New and returning** workers need to build tolerance to heat (acclimatize) and take frequent breaks.
- ✓ **Follow the 20% Rule.** On the first day, work no more than 20% of the shift's duration at full intensity in the heat. Increase the duration of time at full intensity by no more than 20% a day until workers are used to working in the heat.



### Drink Cool Water

Drink cool water even if you are not thirsty – at least 1 cup every 20 minutes.



### Take Rest Breaks

Take enough time to recover from heat given the temperature, humidity, and conditions.



### Find Shade or a Cool Area

Take breaks in a designated shady or cool location.



### Dress for the Heat

Wear a hat and light-colored, loose-fitting, and breathable clothing if possible.



### Watch Out for Each Other

Monitor yourself and others for signs of heat illness.



### If Wearing a Face Covering

Change your face covering if it gets wet or soiled. Verbally check on others frequently.

## First Aid for Heat Illness

The following are signs of a medical emergency!



- Abnormal thinking or behavior
- Slurred speech
- Seizures
- Loss of consciousness

- 1** >> **CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY**
- 2** >> **COOL THE WORKER RIGHT AWAY WITH WATER OR ICE**
- 3** >> **STAY WITH THE WORKER UNTIL HELP ARRIVES**



Watch for any other signs of heat illness and act quickly. When in doubt, call 911.

### If a worker experiences:

- Headache or nausea
- Weakness or dizziness
- Heavy sweating or hot, dry skin
- Elevated body temperature
- Thirst
- Decreased urine output



### Take these actions:

- >> Give water to drink
- >> Remove unnecessary clothing
- >> Move to a cooler area
- >> Cool with water, ice, or a fan
- >> Do not leave alone
- >> Seek medical care if needed



For more information: 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)  
TTY 1-877-889-5627 [www.osha.gov/heat](http://www.osha.gov/heat)

Federal law entitles you to a safe workplace. You have the right to speak up about hazards without fear of retaliation. See [www.osha.gov/workers](http://www.osha.gov/workers) for information about how to file a confidential complaint with OSHA and ask for an inspection.

Alabama Utility Contractors Association  
P.O. Box 383185  
Birmingham, AL 35238-3185  
Phone: 205-582-9436  
Fax: 205-582-9155  
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](http://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**

**facebook**



@AlabamaUCA

**LinkedIn**

