

## National Safety Month - June 2015

Sign up at the following link for materials to promote National Safety Month. There are materials such as posters, checklists and fact sheets. If you are a member, expanded promotional items are also available:

**Learn More:**

<http://www.nsc.org/act/events/Pages/national-safety-month.aspx?var=homepage3>

## Don't Fry Day

As part of its "Heat Illness Prevention Campaign", OSHA is joining the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention to promote "Don't Fry Day" on May 22. "Don't Fry Day" is an annual event — taking place on the Friday before Memorial Day — that seeks assistance from the media to help educate the public about the danger of extreme heat and ultraviolet radiation.

**Learn More:**

<http://www.skincancerprevention.org/node/282>

<http://www.skincancer.org/prevention/sunburn>

## Heat Illnesses



Have you downloaded the OSHA Heat Safety Tool APP? It was recently enhanced and is available for both Apple and Android devices in both English and Spanish.

As summer approaches and outdoor temperatures begin to rise, OSHA is once again informing the public about its Heat Safety Tool app to help protect workers from heat illness. OSHA updated the version for iPhones, which now offers full screen color alerts for all heat conditions, improved navigation and accessibility options, and compatibility upgrades. The app provides heat illness prevention guidance specific to the user's current outdoor workplace conditions using weather data provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The new version provides the daily maximum heat index intended to help prepare for extreme heat and plan work schedules accordingly. More than 187,000 users have downloaded this life-saving app.

**Learn More:**

[https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/heat\\_index/index.html](https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness/heat_index/index.html)

Heat Index	Risk Level	Protective Measures
Less than 91°F	<a href="#">Lower (Caution)</a>	Basic heat safety and planning
91°F to 103°F	<a href="#">Moderate</a>	Implement precautions and heighten awareness
103°F to 115°F	<a href="#">High</a>	Additional precautions to protect workers
Greater than 115°F	<a href="#">Very High to Extreme</a>	Triggers even more aggressive protective measures

## Boating Safety



In Oklahoma, any person who is 12, 13, 14 or 15 years of age that operates any boat powered by a motor more than 10 horsepower, a sailboat 16 feet or greater in length or a personal watercraft (PWC) is required to successfully complete a boating safety education class. You must successfully complete a National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved boating safety course. If you pass the course, a card will be issued to you. Carry this card with you when operating your boat or PWC.

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For information on other requirements and free boating safety courses conducted by the OHP Marine Enforcement Section, call (405) 522-1880 or go to the Oklahoma Boater Education website:

<http://www.okboated.com/index.html>

<http://www.dps.state.ok.us/lp/lps.htm>

Before launching a boat in the spring after winter storage, complete the following checklist:

- ✓ Inspect all of the safety equipment on board, including fire extinguishers, flares, personal flotation devices and first-aid kits, and repair, recharge and restock them as necessary.
- ✓ Check all lights on your boat to make sure they are in place and operating properly.
- ✓ Open the engine compartment to check for excess water in the bilge.
- ✓ Check for any electrical issues, such as loose, disconnected or corroded conductors.
- ✓ Check that the battery is properly secured to the vessel.
- ✓ Check the fuel tank for leaks, and ensure there is proper ventilation.
- ✓ Check the fuel filters to make sure no water is present.
- ✓ Fill your tank with the freshest, highest-quality fuel available.
- ✓ Change and check the oil level before starting the boat for the first time.
- ✓ If you will be towing your vessel to its launch point, you will also need to properly inspect and maintain your trailer prior to your first outing.

Other requirements include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ All boats must carry one wearable United States Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD, life jacket) for each person on board. In addition to wearable life jackets, boats 16 feet or greater in length must also carry a USCG approved Type IV Throwable device.
- ✓ All PFDs must bear a USCG-approved label, must be in good and serviceable condition, must be of suitable size for the intended person, and approved for the activity.
- ✓ All boats using flammable liquid as fuel are required to have the proper type, size and number of fire extinguishers on board.
- ✓ All boats are required to carry on board a whistle or horn or other legal mechanical sound producing device.

Learn More:

<https://www.dps.state.ok.us/lp/lpe.htm>

## Pet Preparedness



In the United States of America, over 43 million households own dogs and have an average of 1.6 dogs (i.e., nearly 70 million dogs). Over 36 million households have cats with an average of 2.1 cats per family (i.e., slightly more than 74 million cats). Then there are birds, reptiles, and large animals such as horses. So, there is a pretty good chance that if you are reading this, you have a pet. During a disaster, there are 5 easy steps to prepare your pet for an emergency.

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**First:** Identify a shelter before a disaster hits. Ask your local emergency manager if they know of shelters that take people and pets. Also, make some calls and find pet-friendly hotels, kennels, or veterinarians. Most boarding kennels, animal shelters, and veterinarians will also want to see your pet's medical records to make sure that all vaccinations are current.

**Second:** Pack a Pet Kit. It should contain food, water, medications, health records, litter pan and litter, a scooper and disposal sacks, manual can opener, food dishes, first aid kit, toys, snacks, and other relevant supplies. Each pet is unique, so plan accordingly. Keep enough supplies to last for a minimum of three days.

**Third:** Update your pet's identification. Tags should be current and securely fastened to a collar. The tag should contain the pet's name, address, and/or phone number. But collars can come off; consider microchipping your pet. Some shelters, businesses, or rescue groups offer lower cost options. For one example, *Paws for Life* in Edmond supports the Edmond Animal Shelter by subsidizing microchipping (\$25 for 1; \$20 each for multiple); appointments only on Thursdays by calling 405-216-7615. Your local animal shelter or emergency management agency may know of other options.

**Fourth:** Protect your pet during the disaster. Animals that are normally outgoing and well-adjusted may become anxious. If severe weather is expected, bringing them inside early can help stop a runaway pet because of fear or a damaged fence, or both.

**Fifth:** After a disaster, a pet's behavior may change. Some animals may become fearful or aggressive. Watch them closely and keep them on a leash at all times, if not in a well-protected and fenced area. The familiar scents and landmarks may have changed so your pet may become confused and easily lost.

### Learn More:

<http://www.ready.gov/caring-animals>

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/Petsanddisasters/>

No cost ASPCA Pet Preparedness App: [www.bit.ly/ASPCAapp](http://www.bit.ly/ASPCAapp).

In Oklahoma, contact information for your city or county emergency manager, listed by county is here (pdf):

<http://www.ok.gov/OEM/documents/012011localem.pdf>

## Food Safety



Memorial Day weekend marks the unofficial start to summer, and many Americans will celebrate with cookouts, camping, road trips and other activities that involve food. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is reminding families to take extra care not to let foodborne bacteria, which grows more quickly in hot weather, ruin the fun.

Last month, USDA launched its *FoodKeeper* mobile app, which contains specific guidance on more than 400 food and beverage items, including safe cooking recommendations for meat, poultry and seafood products. The app provides information on how to store food and beverages to maximize their freshness and quality. USDA reminds everyone to use a food thermometer, and take advantage of resources like the *FoodKeeper* app. The application is available for free on Android and Apple.

### Learn More:

<http://www.fmi.org/industry-topics/consumer-affairs/food-keeper-food-storage-database/foodkeeper-mobile-app>

## Major Auto Recall

If your vehicle is manufactured by BMW, Chrysler, Daimler Trucks, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Mazda, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Subaru or Toyota, you might be affected by a national recall on air bags. The recall found that the airbags are made with materials that can rupture over time and have been blamed for six deaths worldwide. The Takata inflator recall affects nearly 34 million vehicles. As manufacturers supply a complete list of affected vehicles, NHTSA will include updates on its recall page.

## Learn More:

<http://www.safercar.gov/rs/takata/index.html>  
<https://vinrcl.safercar.gov/vin/>  
<http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Owners/vin-lookup-sites>

If you would like to be included in an e-mail distribution list for recalls and home safety messages every Friday, email Pam Boatright - [pboatright@osrhe.edu](mailto:pboatright@osrhe.edu).

## Extension Ladder Safety



Falls are a persistent hazard found in all occupational settings. A fall can occur during the simple acts of walking or climbing a ladder to change a light fixture or as a result of a complex series of events affecting an ironworker 80 feet above the ground. According to the 2009 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 605 workers were killed and an estimated 212,760 workers were seriously injured by falls to the same or lower level.

**Choosing Ladders:** Because there are many kinds of ladders, choosing the right one for the job and using it properly is not always a simple decision.

**Using Ladders:** Falls from ladders are a common source of preventable injuries. Misjudging the ladder angle is a significant risk factor for a fall. If the ladder is set too steep it is more likely to fall back or away during use, and if it is set too shallow then the bottom can slide out.

The NIOSH Ladder app provides references and a safety guide for extension ladder selection, inspection, accessorizing, and use. It also guides the user on positioning an extension ladder at the optimal angle. NIOSH ladder app is available both for Apple and Android devices.

## Learn More:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-06-17-13.html>  
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/falls/>

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