Fourth of July safety toolbox talk

29 CFR 1926.102, 1926.51, 1910.151, 1926.21, 1910.109, 1910.157

Date _____ Trainer _____ Location _____

Opening question

Has anyone here had a close call with fireworks, a grill or the heat on a Fourth of July?

Why it matters

The Fourth of July is a fun holiday with fireworks, cookouts and a lot of time in the sun. It also brings fire, burns, heat illness and busy roads. These are risks we can plan for. A short talk before the holiday helps everyone enjoy it and come back to work healthy.

Key points

1. **Fireworks are for trained professionals**
   Fireworks cause burns, eye injuries and fires. Let trained professionals handle public shows. If you are around consumer fireworks, keep your distance, keep children back, and never relight a dud. Keep water or a hose close. Never hold or point fireworks at anyone, and never mix them with alcohol.

2. **Protect your eyes and hands**
   Flying sparks and debris can hurt your eyes in a second. At work, employers must make sure each affected worker uses appropriate eye or face protection when exposed to flying particles. The same common sense applies at home when anything can throw sparks or chips.
   29 CFR 1926.102(a)(1)

3. **Grill outdoors and keep it under watch**
   Set the grill on a flat surface, outdoors and well away from buildings, decks and trees. Never leave it unattended. Keep kids and pets away. Keep a fire extinguisher, a bucket of sand or a hose nearby, and make sure everyone knows where it is.

4. **Beat the heat**
   A holiday cookout can mean hours in the sun. Drink water often, take breaks in the shade and wear a hat and sunscreen. At work, an adequate supply of drinking water must be available. Learn the signs of heat illness, and act fast if someone is dizzy, confused or stops sweating.
   29 CFR 1926.51(a)(1)

5. **Stay safe near water and on the road**
   Never swim alone or after drinking, and keep a close eye on children near water. On the road, expect heavy traffic and impaired drivers. Wear your seat belt, keep the phone down, plan a sober ride, and get rest before a long drive.

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6 **Know what to do in an emergency**

If someone is burned, cool the burn with cool running water and get medical help for anything serious. Know where first aid supplies are and who is trained to use them. Report any injury or close call when you are back at work.

29 CFR 1910.151(b)

Scenario

Picture this: A crew is leaving for the long Fourth of July weekend. One worker plans to set off fireworks at a family party. He has been drinking and uses a lighter to relight a dud that did not go off. Nearby, another worker is grilling on a wooden deck next to a dry hedge. What would you say to each of them, and what should the group do to prevent harm?

Crew discussion

1. What fireworks or grill rules does your family follow?
2. How will you stay cool and hydrated if you are outdoors all day?
3. Who knows basic first aid for burns, and where are the supplies?
4. How will you get home safely if you are drinking or very tired?

Bottom line **Plan ahead, keep fire and water in mind, and make sure everyone comes back safe from the holiday.**

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Sign-in sheet / Hoja de asistencia

Topic / Tema: Fourth of July and fireworks safety / Seguridad en el 4 de julio y con fuegos artificiales

Date / Fecha: _____

Trainer / Instructor: _____ Location / Lugar: _____ Company / Empresa: _____

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