

June 30, 2011

MEMORANDUM NO: 053-11HR

TO: Agency Administrators

FROM: Bobbie Chappell

VIA: Rip Colvin, Executive Director

RE: Safety Notes from June 2011

Please find attached the June issues of Safety Notes from Risk Management. Please feel free to distribute to other interested parties. Thank you.

Andy Snuggs, Senior Human Resources Coordinator

Human Resources

227 North Bronough Street, Suite 2100

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Phone: (850) 488-2415, ext. 238

Fax: (850) 922-9445

Email: SnuggsA@justiceadmin.org

“The greatest discovery of all time is that a person can change his future by merely changing his attitude.”

~Oprah

QUICK TIPS:

Gloves, like the example below, have reinforced knuckles and wrist protection that can save a rider's hands from serious injury in the event of an accident.



Most motorcycle glasses have built-in seals around the lenses to protect the eyes from excess wind and flying particles. Traditional sunglasses do not offer the same level of protection to the rider.



Safety Notes

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 35



Motorcycle Safety

Everyone who rides a motorcycle is aware that there is a certain level of risk associated with the activity. Situations that would not even merit tapping the brakes in a car can be deadly to a motorcycle rider. Even after decades of motorcycle safety awareness efforts, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) reports that motorcycle accidents continue to increase in all age groups and experience levels.



Historically, the key to motorcycle safety has been safety awareness. States, organizations, and groups that have made efforts to increase driver and rider awareness have seen measurable results in the reduction of injuries and deaths related to motorcycle accidents. Strict laws and regulations can also be very effective. However, Florida has some of the most relaxed motorcycle laws in the nation.

At the end of the day, it is the responsibility of drivers and riders to be aware of their surroundings, wear proper protective gear, and drive defensively. The following pamphlet, or something similar to it, should be included in agency driver safety programs. [MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PAMPHLET](#)

Getting Started

The adoption of state helmet laws has proven to be an effective method in drastically reducing serious injuries and fatalities among riders from all demographics. The study below was conducted by the Centers for Disease Control (C.D.C.). You should take a moment to review the statistics. The facts may astonish you.

[CDC Helmet Statistics](#)



Division of Risk Management
State of Florida Loss Prevention Program
StateLossPreventionProgram@myfloridacfo.com
(850)413-4756

Disclaimer

The links that are posted within the Safety Notes are for educational purposes only. The State of Florida does not endorse or promote any brands, products, or services therein.

“We must free ourselves of the hope that the sea will ever rest. We must learn to sail in high winds.”

~Aristotle Onassis

Safety Notes

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 36



QUICK TIPS:

The constant bumps and vibrations that are inherent to boating can cause the chemicals in a fire extinguisher to settle in the bottom of the bottle. In order to ensure that the extinguisher will work when you need it, shake it before every trip.



For a complete list of required safety equipment, visit the following website.

[Required Safety Equipment](#)

Boating Safety

During summer months, many families and fishermen turn to the water for their leisure-time activities. Each year, these activities result in hundreds of serious injuries, as well as many deaths.

Boating, whether for leisure or commercial purposes, is saturated with hazards and danger. The best way to combat these dangers is to be constantly aware of your surroundings, and to know how to properly use safety equipment before and after an accident.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed a comprehensive boating safety website. This site covers topics ranging from paddle-boating to commercial fishing. If you or any of your co-workers own or operate a boat, take a few minutes to review the contents of this site. It may offer helpful information that could improve the likelihood that you and the other boaters around you will have a safe, enjoyable outing.

[Stay Safe While Boating \(CDC\)](#)

Getting Started

Boating rules can be very confusing, especially to new boaters. The following website offers a free boater safety course. At the end of the course, students have the option to purchase a Florida Boater Safety Education ID card. This reference is for educational purposes only.

[Florida Boating Course](#)



Division of Risk Management
State of Florida Loss Prevention Program
StateLossPreventionProgram@myfloridacfo.com
(850)413-4756

Disclaimer

The links that are posted within the Safety Notes are for educational purposes only. The State of Florida does not endorse or promote any brands, products, or services therein.

“Electricity is really just organized lighting.”

~George Carlin

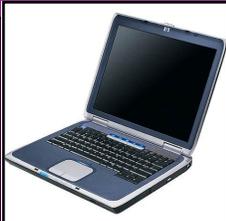
Safety Notes

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 38



QUICK TIPS:

1: Stay off corded phones, computers, and other electrical equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity.



2: Avoid plumbing - including sinks, baths, and faucets.

3. Stay in safe shelter at least 30 minutes after you hear the last clap of thunder.

Lightning Safety

Summer is officially here, and with the summer season comes storms. Storms can create a major safety hazard for employees that work outdoors and indoors. One hazard that comes with storms, and can cause serious injury or even death, is lightning.

Lightning is an electrical discharge that is produced by thunderstorms. Thunder that accompanies lightning can strike up to 10 miles away from rainfall. Hazards from lightning can come from more than a direct lightning strike. Lightning can jump from one person to another in what is known as “side flash,” which is why experts advise large groups of people to spread out to prevent multiple casualties. Lightning also can strike an object you are touching, such as a fence, and travel through your body.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), one-third of lightning injuries occur at work, another one-third occur during recreational activities, and the rest happen during various situations.

During lightning activity, the safest location is a fully enclosed building. The next safest place is an enclosed, hard-topped vehicle.

Lightning Safety NOAA

Getting Started

Keep employees safe by developing a lightning safety plan. A lightning safety plan should include checking the weather report before going out, and preparing a plan that addresses where to go when thunder sounds and how long it will take to arrive there.



Disclaimer

The links that are posted within the Safety Notes are for educational purposes only. The State of Florida does not endorse or promote any brands, products, or services therein.

Division of Risk Management
State of Florida Loss Prevention Program
StateLossPreventionProgram@myfloridacfo.com
(850)413-4756

*“Life without liberty
is like a body
without spirit.”
Kahlil Gibran*

Safety Notes

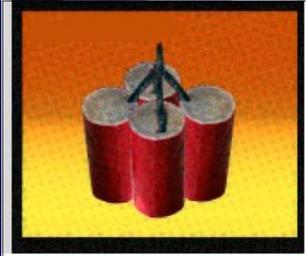


VOLUME 1, ISSUE 39

QUICK TIPS:

1. Keep burning sparklers away from clothing and flammable objects.

2. Light sparklers one at a time.



3. Alcohol, fireworks, and sparklers do not mix. Be responsible.

4. Children younger than 12 should not handle sparklers.

5. When finished, place used sparklers in a bucket of water.

Fourth of July Safety

The Fourth of July holiday should be a time of fun and celebration; however, it can also be one of the most dangerous times of the year. Each year, a lack of firework safety causes thousands of major and minor injuries and even a small amount of deaths. According to a June 2010 report released by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, fireworks were involved in an estimated 8,800 injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments during 2009, up from 7,000 firework-related injuries estimated the previous year. The good news is that many of these injuries could have been prevented through foresight and firework safety training.



As families gather this summer for Independence Day and other holiday events, they need to educate themselves about the risk associated with fireworks.

Getting Started

Stay safe this holiday with a solid knowledge of the dangers of fireworks and how to use them. The Firework Safety Training video will provide you with everything you need to know about firework safety for children and adults.



Firework Safety Training video

Fourth of July Safety

Division of Risk Management
State of Florida Loss Prevention Program
StateLossPreventionProgram@myfloridacfo.com
(850)413-4756