



# Lake County Contractors Association Safety News

**August, 2001**

**Safety Training** - Scheduled classes have ended for the season but we will continue to schedule classes for members who need training.

**REMEMBER:** If you have ten or more (or will pay for 10 students) **we will bring the training to your office**, a site of your choice, or hold your class at the LCCA Office.

First Aid, CPR, OSHA 10-Hour, Excavation Competent Person, Power Line, Confined Space, Respiratory Safety/Silica, Scaffold User or Competent Person, and much more are available for you. Since the LCCA Safety & Education Fund subsidizes the cost, the price is hard to beat.

Training dates are subject to our instructors' schedules, so if you want a particular date, call Gloria at the LCCA Office as soon as possible.

**Safety Trivia From J.J. Keller – Answer to last month's question:** During Roadcheck 2000, more than 42,000 vehicles were inspected. Of those, what percentage were placed out-of-service because of safety violations? 26.2% were placed out of service. Hope your truck was not one of them!

**Budget Cuts OSHA** – President Bush's 2002 budget is proposing to allocate \$425 million to OSHA, \$148 million less than this year. OSHA's inspection budget, however, is increasing while training grants will be cut.

The proposed budget funds training grants at \$8 million, which is down from the 2001 funding level of \$11 million. The activity supports safety and health training grants to non-profit organizations.

For federal enforcement, the proposed budget calls for \$155 million, which is a \$3 million increase over 2001 funding. OSHA's enforcement strategy includes a selective targeting of inspections and related compliance activities to specific high hazard industries and worksites.

**130-Hour Course Offered** – The Chicagoland Construction Safety Council (CCSC) and Northern Illinois University will offer the 130-Hour Construction Safety Coordinator Certificate Program from November 13, 2001 to April 18, 2002.

Construction represents the largest single-purpose industry in the United States. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most hazardous industries. Rising insurance costs, increased regulatory pressure from OSHA, and construction users' aggressive contractor requirements have created a significant demand for qualified site safety personnel.

The Construction Safety Coordinator Certificate has been created to help meet industry demands. Designed by seasoned construction safety and health professionals, the program includes instruction in key areas. The content and experiences of three integrated courses taking place within 130 hours of contact time will enable site safety coordinators to initiate and maintain a top-notch safety program.

Topics such as safety program development, fall protection, excavation safety, hazard communication/HazCom, orientation and training, electrical hazards, and others will be included in this exciting certificate program.

The program is designed for working professionals who commit two nights per week to gain valuable information and practical skills. Limited Saturday field trips may be arranged after class approval, and this commitment may support an earlier course ending date. The presenters are nationally known in their field. The first course in the series will begin on November 13, 2001; the last will end April 18, 2002, so that safety programs and practices can benefit employers beginning a new construction season.

The cost of the course is \$1,863 per person and enrollment is limited. For more information, call CCSC at (708) 544-2082

**Steel Erection Standard Postponed (Again)** – OSHA has announced that its final steel erection standard will go into effect January 18, 2002. The original effective date was to be July 18, 2001. The new effective date gives additional time to the industry to become familiar with the new requirements and to provide training to employees in the construction industry. OSHA is also preparing outreach and training materials to assist industry in the training process.

**Substance Abuse Costs** – Did you know that substance abusers are:

- 5 times more likely to file a workers' comp claim,
- 3.6 times more likely to be injured or cause an injury, and
- 2.5 times more likely to have excessive absences.

Watch for the warning signs.