

Bi-Weekly Safety Tool Box Talks
James Peterson Sons, Inc.
JPS, Inc. Utility Division
Buteyn-Peterson Construction Co., Inc.
June 2009

Emergency Preparedness

Natural and man-made disasters can occur at any time. The only way to survive either of them safely is to anticipate emergencies and be prepared with a plan of action. Wildfires, earthquakes, ice storms, heat waves, house fires, floods, acts of terrorism, and plane crashes can kill workers, destroy workplaces, separate families, and cause panic in our communities. Even if the worst never happens, it's still good to be prepared.

An important part of making a workplace safe is to establish an emergency response plan that anticipates emergencies and covers expected and unexpected disasters. Review your employer's emergency plan and do your part by keeping up with the following:

- Know where emergency telephone numbers are posted.
- Memorize escape routes and keep reviewing them since they may change as the job changes.
- Know where to find shelter in case of a weather emergency.
- Participate in your employer's emergency preparedness training, drills, and other emergency exercises—don't just go through the motions.
- Learn how to perform basic first aid and CPR.
- Anticipate what to do in case the site loses power.
- Learn to use a fire extinguisher.
- Understand how to operate your site's emergency signals and alarms.

- Know the locations of first-aid kits, as well as emergency and disaster supplies.
- Review your employer's emergency plan regularly. Different sites may have very different plans.

At home, you and your family should have an emergency response plan in place before an emergency strikes. Meet with children and family members to discuss the dangers of fire, severe weather, earthquakes, and other emergencies. Discuss what to do during power outages. Draw a floor plan of your house and map out two escape routes from every room. Figure out where to meet and how to communicate in case of an emergency. Select an out-of-state and a local relative or friend for family members to call if separated by a disaster. Learn how to turn off water, gas, and power at main switches. Post emergency phone numbers near telephones.

Assemble a disaster kit with enough supplies to keep you and your family safe for a minimum of 72 hours. Don't forget prescriptions, a supply of non-perishable foods, enough water for each person (one gallon a day), clothing, prescription eyewear, car keys, some money, and special items for infants and elderly or disabled family members. Have a plan that includes food and medicines for your pets, too.

.....
SAFETY REMINDER
.....

Log onto www.ready.gov for more information on how to be prepared for many kinds of emergencies.

Safety Manual Reference: *Page 6 Para. 4.0 Accident Response Plan*

I have read the above safety topic.

Employee Name: _____ Date: _____

Employee Signature: _____

"Return after reading and signing to the office with your time card"