



Weekly Safety Meetings

Safety Training for the Construction Industry

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Select Edition

All Sealants, Inc.

Week of 4/5/2021

Wind, Rain, and Lightning

4/1/21

As we move from spring into summer, we must prepare for the arrival of sudden storms and the threat of severe weather. Climate conditions can change quickly with only a few minutes' warning. On a construction site, you must be aware of the weather and learn how to prepare in order to protect yourself from the hazards of wind, rain, and lightning.

The National Weather Service issues weather watches and warnings to make you aware of weather dangers in your area. Be sure you understand the difference. A "watch" is a message which indicates that conditions are favorable for the occurrence of a specific type of hazardous weather over a broad area. A "warning," on the other hand, indicates that a hazardous weather event—such as a thunderstorm or flash flood—is occurring or will occur locally within 30 minutes to an hour. When severe weather is forecast, get updates on weather conditions by watching weather reports or keeping a weather radio handy.

Tornadoes, hurricanes, and thunderstorms can generate damaging winds. On a construction site, the dangers of high winds increase because loose tools, materials, and equipment can be blown around by the wind. The safest thing to do is to seek shelter immediately. If a sturdy building is not nearby, lie down in a low spot on the ground, not subject to flooding, and protect your head and neck. If

you have time, secure loose materials and equipment. Never stand near unsecured tilt-up panels or masonry walls since they can easily be blown over during high winds.

Prolonged or intense rainfall can cause flooding. Floods can tear out trees, sweep away vehicles, and destroy buildings and bridges. Flood safety is simple—head for higher ground and stay away from flooded areas. Never try to walk, swim, or drive in floodwater. Be alert to the possibility of a flood if it has been raining steadily for several days or heavily over several hours.

While the odds of being struck by lightning are quite low (around 1 in 700,000), they go up considerably if you are outdoors during a storm—even a storm with no apparent thunder or lightning. The odds go up even more if you are working on structural steel, a roof, or any other elevated surface. If lightning is a danger, minimize your contact with the ground. Rather than lying flat on the ground for protection, crouch down with only your feet on the ground.

SAFETY REMINDER

How's the weather?

Keep your eye on the sky and stay alert for changing weather conditions.

NOTES:

SPECIAL TOPICS /EMPLOYEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS/NOTES:

S.A.F.E. CARDS* PLANNED FOR THIS WEEK:

REVIEWED SDS # _____ SUBJECT: _____

MEETING DOCUMENTATION:

JOB NAME: _____
MEETING DATE: _____
SUPERVISOR: _____
ATTENDEES: _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.