

# SAFETY ZONE NEWS

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR NECA

Happy New Year and welcome back.

2015 is here. We are looking forward to a good year and also a safe year. Our safety record improved last year and we are looking forward to an even better year. We would like to thank and congratulate everyone who works for NECA. Every one of us has contributed to our improvement and success.

As always, "Safety First". We need to continue working safe and recognize those hazards. We need to feel safe and confident that "we", all of us, are doing what needs to be done to work safely. Safety is a team effort. It takes all of us to make a worksite safe.

This year we are planning to offer more safety



training classes and sponsor another "Safety Week" which we started last year. Keep at look out for the upcoming safety classes in our newsletters and memos.

Safety needs to always come first and this is the message that we want to get to every employee.

Be safe and Happy New Year.

*"Prepare and prevent, don't repair and repent"*

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## What to Look For

The New Year is here and the Safety Department is open for suggestions for employee trainings. This year we will try to schedule at least one

safety training pre month in addition to the First Aid/CPR/AED training. Our goal is to have employee at NECA to be trained in the tasks they are performing in the field. Please keep in

mind, that you must have the approval of your supervisor to attend the trainings. Letters are sent the supervisors informing them of the trainings. Hope to see you at training. HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

## Safety Tip – POWER TOOL SAFETY DO'S AND DON'TS

### DO:

- Follow all written instructions and warnings.
- Use the proper tool for the job.
- Keep guards and other safety devices in place.
- Don't use power tools in areas with chemicals or other flammable liquids.
- Turn off your tool and unplug it before changing a bit, blade or other part.

- And unplug it when you finish the job.
- Immediately turn off and unplug any tool that sparks, overheats or causes an electrical shock.
- Keep power tools clean, sharp and in good operating condition.
- And unplug it when you finish the job.
- Immediately turn off and unplug any tool that sparks, overheats or causes an electrical shock.
- Keep power tools clean, sharp and in good operating condition.

### DON'T:

- Use a power tool without wearing
- Use a power tool without wearing

*"Don't use a small tool for a big job."*

## 2014 SAFE FOREMEN AWARD

Congratulations to the following Foremen and crews. These Foremen and crews have worked the entire 2014 Calendar Year incident free. NECA would like to acknowledge these Foremen and each crew personnel with a Safety Award. The Safety Awards are currently being distributed to these crews.

600 Kendall Mitchell  
615 Thomas Tso  
616 Ray Begay  
618 Gene Laughlin  
625 Rueben Howe  
300 Larrison Tom  
301 Eric Draven  
302 Lee Mescal  
304 Norman Morgan  
WH Vernon Cohoe

NECA would also like give special recognition to 607 Andrew Yazzie. Andrew Yazzie supervised contracts projects and was nearly incident free.

Again, congratulations and let's all have a safe 2015.

## SAFE MANHOURS AWARDS - DECEMBER

Congratulations to the following Foremen and Crews. These crews have met their goals of accumulated safe work hours during the month of December and will be receiving a Safety Award. These awards are in the process of being distributed.

600 Kendall Mitchell  
602 Mark Nelson  
603 Ned Johnson  
604 Mike Etcitty  
614 Nelson Morris  
615 Thomas Tso  
621 Wallace Marshall  
625 Rueben Howe  
Mechanic Shop  
Warehouse  
Main Building

Survey Department

## From OSHA – Working Safely with Chain Saws

The chain saw is one of the most efficient and productive portable power tools used in the industry. It can also be one of the most dangerous. If you learn to operate it properly and maintain the saw in good working condition, you can avoid injury as well as be more productive.

### Before Starting the Saw

- Check controls, chain tension, and all bolts and

handles to ensure they are functioning properly and adjusted according to the manufacturer's instructions.

- Fuel the saw at least 10 feet from sources of ignition.
- Check the fuel container for the following requirements:
  - Must be metal or plastic
  - Must not exceed a 5 gallon capacity

Must be approved by the Underwriters Laboratory, Factory Mutual (FM), the Department of Transportation (DOT), or other Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory.

### While Running the Saw

Keep hands on the handles, and maintain secure footing while operating the chainsaw.

*"Safety starts with you"*

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## Safety Week 2015 Slogan Contest

Frank Smith

In May of 2015 NECA will be participating in National Safety Week. The specific week will be announced later. We are seeking input from our employees on what the Safety Week Slogan should be for this year. Last year's slogan was "Noble Employees Communicate Awareness".

We ask that employees think about our safety program and try to come up with a slogan that is meaningful and represents

the safety message we wish to send to our employees and the industry about how we view safety. The slogan will be used on banners, t-shirts and other items to promote safety during safety week as well as the rest of the year.

All slogan submissions should be sent to the NECA main office by March 13, 2015. A committee will review and select the winning slogan. The

employee or crew who created the winning slogan may receive an award and special recognition for creating the winning slogan. Thank you for supporting the NECA Safety program and working safely in 2015! Frank Smith, NECA Operations Manager

## Training News

Lemuel D. Benallie

*"Safety doesn't happen by accident"*

**OSHA General Industry**  
30 Hour Outreach Training at Base 5 in Shiprock, NM. This is a four day class and is broken down into two weeks. The following is the scheduled dates. January 15 -16, 2015 –

Days 1 & 2. January 22-23, 2015 – Days 3 & 4. January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> –

**OSHA 10 Hour Outreach** at NECA Base. This is a two day class. Class will start at 8:00am each day. Assigned employees are

required to attend all sessions each day.

January 29<sup>th</sup> - First Aid/CPR/AED Training, Base 5, Shiprock, NM. Class will start at 8:00 am.

Contact Lemuel Benallie at (505) 368-3031.

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**"Nobel Employees  
Communicate Awareness"**



#### From OSHA – Working Safely with Chain Saws, *continued*

Clear the area of obstacles that might interfere with cutting the tree or using the retreat path. Do not cut directly overhead. Shut off or release throttle prior to retreating. Shut off or engage the chain brake whenever the saw is carried more than 50 feet, or across hazardous terrain. Be prepared for kickback; use saws that reduce kickback danger (chain brakes, low kickback chains, guide bars, etc.).

#### **Personal Protective Equipment**

Personal protective equipment (PPE), for the head, ears, eyes, face, hands, and legs are designed to prevent or lessen the severity of injuries to loggers and other workers using chain saws. PPE must be inspected prior to use on each work shift to ensure it is in serviceable condition

#### **Training**

Training requirements include: Specific work procedures, practices and requirements of the work site, including the recognition, prevention, and control of general safety and health hazards. Requirements of the OSHA Logging standard, Blood borne Pathogens standard, First Aid, and CPR training. How to safely perform assigned work tasks, including the specific hazards associated with each task and the measures and work practices which will be used to control those hazards. How to safely use, operate, and maintain tools, machines and vehicles which the employee will be required to utilize in completing the assigned requirements.

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#### **Safety Humor**

When the employees of a construction company attended a fire safety seminar, they watched a fire official demonstrate the proper way to operate an extinguisher. 'Pull the pin like a hand grenade,' he explained, 'then depress the trigger to release the foam.'

Later an employee was selected to extinguish a controlled fire. In his nervousness, he forgot to pull the pin.

The instructor hinted, 'Like a hand grenade, remember?' In a burst of confidence he pulled the pin, and hurled the extinguisher at the blaze.