



OSHA'S NATIONAL EMPHASIS PROGRAM ON OUTDOOR & INDOOR HEAT HAZARDS: FACT SHEET

// WHAT IS THE NATIONAL EMPHASIS PROGRAM (NEP) ON HEAT?

The NEP is OSHA's first nationwide enforcement measure to protect millions of workers from the increasing threat of heat-related illness.

// WHY NOW?

As average annual temperatures increase, so does the danger of extreme heat. 18 of the last 19 summers were the hottest on record, with workers suffering over 3,500 heat-related injuries and illnesses each year.

// WHAT DOES THE NEP INCLUDE?

Building upon OSHA's ongoing initiatives, the NEP greenlights OSHA to conduct heat-related inspections on high-risk worksites while encouraging protective measures such as training, acclimatization procedures, and access to water, rest and shade.

// WHAT INDUSTRIES WILL BE AFFECTED?

The NEP targets over 70 high-risk outdoor and indoor industries, primarily within construction and manufacturing where exposure is particularly high. Targeted industries were selected based on recent heat-related incident data recorded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, as well as the highest number of OSHA heat inspections and general duty clause violations / hazard alert letters over a 5-year period.

// HOW LONG IS THE NEP IN EFFECT?

Effective April 8, 2022, the NEP will remain valid for three years unless canceled or extended.

INSPECTIONS

// WHEN WILL INSPECTIONS OCCUR?

OSHA will initiate inspections on days the National Weather Service has announced a heat warning or advisory for the local area. If the heat index is 80°F or higher, inspectors and compliance specialists will engage in outreach and technical assistance to help keep workers safe.

// WHAT CAN I EXPECT DURING AN INSPECTION?

During inspections, compliance safety and health officers (CSHOs) will:

- Review logs and incident reports for entries indicating heat-related illness, as well as records of heat-related ER visits and ambulance transport
- Interview workers for symptoms of heat-related illnesses, including headache, dizziness or dehydration
- Review employer's plans for addressing heat exposure and associated training records
- Identify all conditions and activities relevant to heat-related hazards

// WILL SITES BE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO INSPECTION?

While OSHA Area Offices will be working from established at-risk industry lists, inspection sites will be chosen at random on high heat days.



FAILING TO PREPARE IS PREPARING TO FAIL. HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS IS 100% PREVENTABLE.

HERE'S HOW:

// ENGINEERING CONTROLS

- Air conditioning, fans + increased ventilation
- Natural shade + portable shelters
- Reflective shields to redirect radiant heat
- Sealing steam leaks by insulating water vapor pressure

// ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

- Risk, symptom + first-aid training
- Acclimatization
- Regular hydration
- Scheduling + pacing of work based on time of day
- Frequent breaks
- Reduced physical demands

// PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Cooling towels, vests, headwear + hard hat accessories
- Moisture-wicking or absorbing sweatbands, headwear + other accessories
- Polarized safety glasses
- Sunscreen + UPF rated apparel

STOCK UP FOR THE NEP

// CHILL-ITS HEAD + NECK COOLING

Advanced cooling towels, headwear and gaiters turn hot n' bothered into heat-beating happiness.



6602
COOLING
TOWEL

// CHILL-ITS HARD HAT ACCESSORIES

Easy-to-install liners, shades and sweatbands prove cool and compliant don't have to be mutually exclusive.



6660
HARD HAT
BRIM W/ SHADE

// CHILL-ITS VEST + ARM COOLING

Dry evaporative, wet evaporative and phase change tech for heavenly relief indoors and out.



6260
LIGHTWEIGHT
PHASE CHANGE
COOLING VEST

// CHILL-ITS HYDRATION

Keep crews chuggin' with industrial coolers, hydration packs and water bottles.



5155HV
HI-VIS LOW-PROFILE
HYDRATION PACK

// KREW'D SUNSCREEN

Broad spectrum SPF 50 formulated and tested to withstand the daily grind.



6355
32OZ LOTION
SPF 50 SUNSCREEN

// SHAX POP-UP TENTS + UMBRELLAS

The ultimate in instant shelter, featuring rugged polyester, element-battling UV/PU coatings and durable steel frames.



6000
HEAVY-DUTY
COMMERCIAL
TENT — 10' X 10'

FIND MORE HEAT STRESS EDUCATION, PREVENTION STRATEGIES + SOLUTIONS AT ergo.zone/heat-risk