

SchoolComp Safety



National Safety Month 2017

Join the The National Safety Council (NSC) in promoting National Safety Month beginning June 1. National Safety Month focuses on reducing leading causes of injury and death at work and on personal time. Each week in June, The NSC will provide free safety resources:

- Week 1: Stand Up to Falls
- Week 2: Recharge to Be In Charge
- Week 3: Prepare for Active Shooters
- Week 4: Don't Just Sit There (Focus on Ergonomics)

To participate in promoting National Safety Month and view and download free safety materials go to the [NSC website](#).



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Public Employers Expected to Receive Over \$100 Million in Rebate from Ohio BWC

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) Board of Directors recently approved the return of more than \$1 billion dollars to Ohio's private and public employers, the third rebate in four years.

Public employers will receive a one-time rebate of approximately \$133 million which is expected to be dispersed by the end of July. Most rebates will equal 66% of premium for the policy year ending December 31, 2015. To review the specifics of the Third Billion Back proposal and the eligibility requirements, [click here](#).

As part of the Third Billion Back proposal, BWC also introduced three safety and health initiatives

for improving the safety, health and wellbeing of Ohio's workforce:

1. Health and Wellness Program (HWP)
2. Extension of funding for the Safety Intervention Grants Program
3. Safety Campaigns related to injuries caused by slips, trips and falls, over exertions and motor vehicle accidents.

For more information on these initiatives, [click here](#).

Since the additional billion back is tied to premium already paid, we would like to remind you that alternative rating programs still present a tremendous savings benefit for your school district.

Do not forget to enroll for the upcoming 2018 policy year by the deadlines.

- Group Rating - May 31, 2017
- Group Retrospective Rating, Small/Large Deductible, Individual Retrospective Rating, One Claim Program - July 31, 2017
- Destination Excellence Programs - November 30, 2017

If you should have any questions related to the BWC rebate or enrollment into the alternative rating programs for policy year 2018, please feel free to contact our workers' compensation partner, CompManagement, at (800) 825-6755, option 3.

Fireworks Safety

The weather is warming up and barbecues, parades and fireworks displays will be in full swing. In 2013, eight people died and about 11,400 were injured badly enough to require medical treatment after fireworks-related incidents, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Forty percent of those injuries were amateurs attempting to use homemade or other illegal fireworks or explosives.

Fireworks are also the cause of thousands of home and other structure fires each year. Some fireworks are legal for consumer purchase in some states and must be handled with caution, these may include sparklers, bottle rockets, firecrackers, and roman candles.

The National Safety Council encourages you to follow these safety tips when handling any type of firework:

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks;
- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision;
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear;
- Never light them indoors;
- Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material;
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting;
- Never ignite devices in a container;
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks;
- Soak unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding, and;
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire.

Additional information regarding fireworks safety may be viewed by [clicking here](#).

All About H²O Safety

Boating

Government research shows that roughly 74 million Americans engage in recreational boating each year. In 2014, the U.S. Coast Guard counted over 4,000 boating incidents resulting in 610 deaths, 2,678 injuries and \$39 million in property damage. The top 3 causes of boating incidents include:

- A passenger falling overboard;
- A boat capsizing;
- Boat collisions with other boats or objects.

84% percent of boating incident victims in 2014 weren't wearing a life jacket. Luckily, life jackets are available in styles for almost any boating activity, even for your four-legged friends. Choosing the right style is key; one life jacket does not fit all. Make sure it fits:

- Make sure the life jacket is properly fastened.
- All straps, buckles or zippers are secure.
- Hold your arms straight up over your head.
- Ask a friend to grasp the tops of the arm openings and gently pull up.

Before setting sail review a pre-departure checklist and make sure you have items such as life jackets for each person, a tool box and first aid kit aboard. A pre-departure checklist is available, [click here](#).

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About Ohio SchoolComp

Ohio SchoolComp is a partnership of OASBO and OSBA offering Workers' Compensation Group programs to our members.

By combining forces, the associations created a single, larger group in order to "maximize benefits and options for school districts.

The SchoolComp program is administered by CompManagement.

SchoolComp's goal is to offer cost-effective group programs and education to help Ohio school districts keep employees and students safe, while minimizing the risk for claims.

Questions about the program? Contact:

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Ohio SchoolComp
A PROGRAM OF OSBA & OASBO



More H₂O Safety

Swimming

Swimming often goes hand in hand with summer boating. According to The National Safety Council (NSC) *Injury Facts 2016*, about 10 people die each day in the United States from drowning in non-boat related incidents. Drowning is not only a concern for young children but also teens and adults. NSC suggests a few safety precautions that should be taken by swimmers:

- Don't go in the water unless you know how to swim;
- Never swim alone;
- Make sure the body of water matches your skill level; swimming in a pool is much different than swimming in a lake or river;
- If you do get caught in a current, don't try to fight it; stay calm and float with it, or swim parallel to the shore until you can swim free;
- Swim in areas supervised by a lifeguard, and
- Don't dive in unfamiliar areas.

Watersports

Skiing, tubing, wake-boarding, kayaking and canoeing are popular and fun summer watersports that may also be dangerous. In 2014, 8 people were killed and 305 were injured while taking part in watersports. Per Nationwide Children's Hospital, wakeboarders are more likely to have a traumatic brain injury than water skiers. The hospital offers the following safety tips:

- Learn how to get up out of the water and how to safely use the tow rope;
- Always have a spotter in the boat, and go over basic hand signals;
- Be sure the boat operator is licensed and experienced with the boat and the body of water, and;
- Only water ski and wakeboard during daylight.

Field and Stream reports that 219 people died and 110 were injured while canoeing and kayaking in 2013. Most deaths occur when a boat capsizes and/ or someone falls overboard. Field and Stream offers the following advice for surviving a boat capsiz:

- Always wear a lifejacket;
- Stay upstream of the boat to avoid being pinned between the boat and a rock;
- Angle your way up to the shore instead of paddling straight, stay behind the canoe and use it as a flotation device;
- Have someone steady the canoe so you can get in without tipping;
- Canoe with at least three people, or two crafts;
- Join a local canoe club or take lessons to learn about canoe safety;
- Never attempt rivers or rapids beyond your ability;
- Never stand in a canoe away from shore;
- Do not canoe in inclement weather;
- In waterproof bags, bring some extra clothes, sunscreen, a first aid kit, snacks and water, and a map;
- Carry a canoeing whistle, just in case you need help;
- Tie your equipment to the canoe in case it tips over, and;
- Bring a rope to pull a swimmer to safety or tow another boat.

For more tips on summer water safety and other seasonal topics, go to <http://www.nsc.org>.