

NCWM Newsletter Safety Article

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A Resource for Safety

In our roles in the weights and measures field, whether it as regulators or industry, we all have a part in safety. Safety for the inspectors, safety for the customers, and safety for all those involved in what we do on a day-to-day basis. As the Safety Subcommittee Chair, I would like to draw attention to multiple resources that can help assist us in creating a safe workplace and preventing accidents.

First, the NCWM website Safety Awareness page (<https://www.ncwm.com/safety>) is a valuable resource where you can find previous safety articles, safety program resources, and the results of previous safety surveys. Here you will also find the names and emails to the various liaisons for your region. If you ever have a safety or training concern, I ask that you please reach out to them or I and we will try to find the answers you are looking for.

Second, is the safety survey, as I mentioned above. NCWM recently sent the new 2021 safety survey out to the 50 Weights and Measures directors. I ask that all the directors take the time to fill out the survey and submit by June 1. The results of this survey, presented at the Annual NCWM meeting, act as a gauge to understand where safety needs to be addressed and assists in bringing awareness to other members of NCWM who may not have encountered those safety concerns.

Periodically, you may receive an email regarding safety from NCWM. My hope here is to heighten awareness among our members and their employees. The point is to reduce accidents by being prepared, by being informed, and by voicing concerns when you see a safety issue happening in the field. Sometimes new safety concerns occur suddenly and by sending out a quick email, we can disseminate that information quickly and efficiently to our staff, inspectors in the field, and/or in the laboratories.

Finally, I would like to stress the importance of training and worksite assessments. Training encourages learning and expanding of knowledge to gain the tools and information that not only reduce accidents and save lives, but also help in making the overall conditions at gas pumps, terminals, marinas, scales, labs, etc., safe and reliable for customers and employees. Work site assessments are an incredibly useful tool and can relay information quickly when training new personnel or cross training existing personnel. These assessments can be used in a wide variety of operations and, again, keep employees aware of the hazards they may encounter while on a job site.

Again, if you would like to see more information concerning safety or training on the NCWM website, please reach out to me or one of your liaisons and we will do our best to meet the needs for safety in the NCWM community. Thank you and stay safe out there.