



Hanover County Safety & Risk Management Communication

Happy Safety & Risk Friday (#SafetyFriday)! This week's short subject centers on Housekeeping!

Safety & Risk Tip of the Week:

Did you know that according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are more than 800 injuries annually involving floors, walkways, and ground surfaces as a result of poor housekeeping practices? To help prevent incidents related to housekeeping, employees should do their part to help avoid and prevent injuries and incidents by practicing good housekeeping on every job and at every work location.

Remember these tips to improve housekeeping and worker safety:

- Maintain a clean work area. This includes making sure that materials are not stored in paths of travel, are stacked neatly and secured to prevent tripping or falling over. Do not block main paths of travel from a location in the event of an emergency or are stacked in such a manner that they interfere with the proper function of fire suppression systems.
- Store rolling materials away from aisles and walkways to avoid creating trip hazards. Place cords (extension or otherwise) out of the path of travel whenever possible or if not able to do so, secured to the surface by tape or other means to prevent a tripping hazard.
- Keep entry ways, walkways, and sidewalks free of water, ice, snow, and other potential trip, slip, or fall hazards.
- Uneven or damaged walking surfaces, when discovered, must be marked with cones or other clearly identified markers to direct foot traffic away from the area and reported for repair immediately.

Safety & Risk Resource Spotlight:

- **Chemical Hazards:** NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health) has made available in electronic format, the NIOSH Pocket Guide for Chemical Hazards. The application provides information on thousands of commercial and household chemicals and is available for download. To download, simply access the Apple App Store or Google Play and download for free!
- **Safety & Risk Training Resources:** For a complete list of Safety & Risk related training options offered in May through the Virginia Risk Sharing Association (VRSA), the training calendar can be accessed at the [VRSA Website](#). Training that is offered is free to Hanover County employees & departments.

Safety & Risk Update:

- **Safety & Risk Training (WebNet):** Safety & Risk is currently completing Phase 1 reviews, with the assistance of department representatives, of safety & risk training assignments and training matrices for each county department, focusing on correcting report errors in the system. Phase 2 will involve review of the current training matrices and current training offerings for preparation for migration of training from the current platform to a new platform at the start of 2023. If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to Victoria Mullen (primary) or Matt Phillips (secondary)

Safety & Risk Observances:

Highlighted observances for May 2022:

1. National Electrical Safety Month
2. National Boating Safety Week (May 21-27)
3. National Police Week (May 11-15)
4. National EMS Week (May 15-21)

For information on upcoming National Safety & Risk Observances and access to resources for those topics, please visit the [National Safety Council Website](#).

Safety & Risk Quote of the Week:

The most
dangerous phrase
in the language is "we've
always done it this way."

Rear admiral Grace Hopper