

SAFETY THEME

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., – A Service Organization of the ASSOCIATION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GEORGIA and the GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

The Safety Theme program is designed to help you get an important safety message across to all employees in a simple-to-use format that can be completed each month.

Monthly Poster Theme

Make copies and post them wherever you will get the most impact.

Training Calendar

General Liability

Tifton/Tift County	May 8
Macon/Bibb County	May 24
Cartersville/Bartow County	May 29
Cornelia	June 12
Statesboro	June 19

Health Promotion Services

Tifton	May 15
Statesboro	May 16
Cartersville	May 17

Upcoming Training:

Law Enforcement Liability Symposiums

ACCG and GMA, through LGRMS, will hold four Law Enforcement Liability Symposiums around the state during the week of **October 22-26**.

Final dates and locations are to be announced.

Our featured presenter will be **Jack Ryan** of the **Legal Liability Risk Management Institute**.

Safety Theme Article

The article expands on the poster message for the month. Make copies and hand them out to each meeting participant.

In This Issue:

Participant Sign-In Sheets: Use the sign-in sheet to document your safety training.

Suggested Agenda for the Monthly Safety Meeting:

- >>> Assemble the participants.
- >>> Hand out copies of the article and pass around the sign-in sheet.
- >>> Read the Safety Theme aloud.
- >>> Discuss aspects of the theme relevant to the department, with examples. Ask for ideas and encourage participation.



LGRMS
RISK CONTROL
ACCG | GMA

May 2018

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**Warm Weather Hazards:
They're Back!**

Be Safe Outside!

Hazards to Outdoor Workers

Outdoor workers – including water, wastewater, parks, groundskeepers, public works, streets, police, and fire – can be exposed to physical hazards and biological hazards. Employers should train their workers about their workplace hazards, including hazard identification and recommendations for preventing and controlling their exposures.

Sun and Heat

Extreme heat can cause heat stroke, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat rash. Take shade breaks and hydrate throughout the work shift. Ultraviolet radiation (UV) can cause sunburn and, potentially, skin cancer. Limit skin exposure by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and hats. Use sunscreen, and reapply when needed; check the instructions on the package.

Insects

Diseases may be spread by mosquitos and ticks. Mosquito-borne diseases include West Nile virus; tick-borne diseases include Lyme disease. Limit skin exposure (following the same clothing recommendations as for sun and heat) and use repellent. Be aware of spiders (black widows, brown recluse) in dark moist places, heavy bush, or trash. Stinging insects, such as bees, wasps, yellow jackets, ants, and scorpions, can be found everywhere. Wear gloves when moving materials or trash and be alert for nests in the ground or on trees or bushes.

Animals and Other Critters

Threats include venomous snakes (rattlesnakes, copperheads, cottonmouth water moccasins, and coral snakes). Rattlesnakes and copperheads range throughout the state; cottonmouths generally range from Middle Georgia to South Georgia, and coral snakes are common in South Georgia. Along with the above clothing recommendations, heavy boots and chaps can provide additional protection.

Poisonous Plants

Poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac can cause allergic reactions from skin contact. They can also be dangerous respiratory hazards if they are burned. In addition to long sleeves, long pants, and gloves, use barrier creams prior to exposure, and thoroughly wash affected areas immediately after exposure. Keep in mind that your clothing could still have residue, so carefully wash them separately from other clothing.

Other Hazards

Outdoor workers may encounter other hazards in addition to the physical and biological hazards described here. They may be exposed to pesticides or other chemical hazards, traumatic injury hazards, or other safety and health hazards depending on their specific job and tasks. Employers should train outdoor workers about their workplace hazards, including hazard identification and recommendations for preventing and controlling their exposures.



Brown Recluse



Poison Ivy



Rattlesnake



Paper Wasps



Coral Snake

For more information, contact your county extension agent or visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics.



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A Service Organization of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal Association

This Issue:

Warm Weather Hazards

