

# Iowa Division of Labor

## Iowa Workforce Development

[Elisabeth Buck, Director](#)

[Chester J. Culver, Governor](#)

[Dave Neil, Labor Commissioner](#)

### **Message from Labor Commissioner David Neil.....**

Iowa's OSHA Consultation and Education team recently received the coveted OSCAR – On Site Consultation Achievement Recognition – Award for outstanding work performed during Iowa's 2008 floods. Our OSHA Consultation and Education team led an outstanding effort on the ground to educate contractors on Iowa's laws during the clean-up from the natural disasters of 2008. Without their dedicated effort, the state would have witnessed additional work related accidents. U.S. Department of Labor OSHA Regional Administrator Charles Adkins submitted the award nomination for Iowa's team. In his nomination, Adkins noted that Iowa's OSHA team conducted a number of health and safety outreach efforts concentrated in Cedar Rapids and in Iowa City where twenty building and utility tunnels were flooded on the University of Iowa campus.



The primary goal of Iowa's OSHA Consultation and Education team is to reduce the incidence of injury or illness to workers by enhancing the ability to identify and control safety and health hazards. This separate program is confidential and no citations or penalties are proposed or issued.

### **Think Safety With Amusement Rides**

Summer is upon us and county fairs and carnivals are in full swing. It's important that all Iowans remember to use basic safety precautions with all amusement rides. We can protect kids from potential hazards by choosing suitable rides, riding along until they're old enough to protect themselves and teaching them how to ride safely. Amusement parks and carnivals can be a fun and safe experience but only if riders pay attention and follow all the safety rules.

Below are a few tips to keep in mind when visiting an amusement park:

- Take responsibility for your own safety. Amusement rides which have received their annual inspection will have a 2009 sticker visible on the ride..
- Don't board a ride that looks unsafe - even though parks and carnivals pay attention to safety, exceptions can occur. Make sure to follow your instincts and don't ride something that troubles you.
- Keep your arms, legs, feet and head inside the ride at all times - hands and feet that are dangling out of the car can get caught between the moving car or surrounding structures. Make sure seat belts and lap bars are locked tight - ask for help from the ride operator if you need help.

Iowans should be aware many rides approved for children are designed to fit adult bodies and may leave small riders vulnerable to falls or forceful ejections. Make sure you pay attention to the posted weight and height restrictions.

### **Senate File 318 and Amusement Rides**

With the passage and signage of SF318, the minimum insurance coverage necessary to obtain an amusement ride operator's permit increased. Applications received on or after July 1st required proof of the new \$1,000,000 insurance.

### **IOSH Consultations & Inspections**

Over the past quarter, 80 companies in 27 Iowa counties received voluntary consultation visits. Additionally, 229 Iowa companies received IOSH inspections this quarter. Inspections took place in the following towns:

Adair -1	Denver -1	New Hampton -1
Altoona -2	Des Moines -15	Norwalk -1
Ames -4	Dubuque -5	Oelwein -3
Anamosa -1	Duncombe -1	Oskaloosa -1
Ankeny -7	Durant -1	Ottumwa -1
Armstrong -1	Eddyville -3	Pella -2
Atlantic -1	Eldon -1	Perry -1
Bettendorf -4	Fairfield -3	Sac City -1
Brooklyn -1	Fort Dodge -4	Sheldon -2
Burlington -4	Fort Madison -1	Sioux Center -8
Carroll -8	Garner -1	Sioux City -1
Cedar Falls -2	Grinnell -2	Spencer -2
Cedar Rapids -7	Hartford -2	Spirit Lake -1
Centerville -2	Hiawatha -1	Toledo -2
Charles City -5	Hubbard -4	Traer -5
Clarion -1	Humboldt -3	Urbandale -2
Clinton -1	Independence -1	Van Wert -2
Clive -4	Iowa City -16	Victor -2
Columbus Junction -1	Iowa Falls -4	Walcott -2
Coralville -1	Lamoni -2	Wapello -1
Corydon -1	Lansing -1	Waterloo -9
Council Bluffs -17	Laurens -1	Webster City -1
Creston -1	Manchester -2	West Des Moines -3
Davenport -3	Maquoketa -1	West Liberty -3
De Witt -2	Marshalltown -10	Whiting -2
Decorah -1	Mount Pleasant -1	

### **Contractor Registration Changes**

The Legislature increased the fee for contractor registration from \$25 every two years to \$50 every year. Additionally, a "revolving fund" was established to cover the administrative costs of the program.



Labor Services Division  
1000 E Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319



### The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)

The Voluntary Protection Program is a means through which IOSHA recognizes the outstanding achievements of companies that have successfully incorporated safety and health programs into their total management system. VPP Star status facilities are an elite group of 39 sites in Iowa and over 600 sites nation wide.

- Signode Engineered Products in West Union received their re-certification at a ceremony awarding the VPP Star status on May 29th.
- American Packaging received there VPP Star status on May 15th in Story City.

### Asbestos Projects

Asbestos project notices may now be sent to the Labor Services Division via fax or e-mail to 515-281-7995 or e-mail [barbara.buck@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:barbara.buck@iwd.iowa.gov).

### Changes to Boiler Inspections

House File 720 now allows companies who have attained and are current in Star status in the VPP program to have an internal inspection of certain large boilers every four years as opposed to every two years. With this change, a new fee inspection schedule exists for receiving a 4-year certificate. Effective July 1st, 4-year inspections certificates became available to companies meeting the aforementioned criteria for \$100.

### New Elevator Rules

The Elevator Safety Board and the Labor Commissioner adopted major changes to the rules governing elevator and escalator safety tests, inspections, special inspectors and related issues. The new rules are effective July 22, 2009.

### Elevator Public Safety Alert

Hoistway door safety retainers have been required by ASME A17.1 since the 1992 addenda. If a hoistway door is missing this retainer, it is considered a serious safety concern and immediate corrective action should be taken. You may contact this office if further assistance is required.

Iowa Workforce Development  
Division of Labor Services  
1000 E Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
515-281-5387  
800-563-4692  
Deaf or Hard of Hearing,  
Call 711  
[www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org)  
07/09



An Equal Opportunity  
Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are  
available upon request to  
individuals with disabilities.