

# EFO Safety and Health Committee News

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June 3, 2016

Zika Virus

## Summer heat safety campaign begins

OSHA has kicked off its summer campaign to inform employers and employees about the dangers of working in the heat. The campaign will continue its annual outreach to highlight how heat-related worker fatalities are entirely preventable. In 2014 alone, **2,630 workers** suffered from heat illness and **18 died** from heat stroke and related causes on the job.

OSHA also provided heat safety tips for workers in a [blog](#), Twitter posts, and an updated [heat campaign webpage](#) that now includes illustrations of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, an animated video, training resources, and links to an updated heat safety phone app. [#WaterRestShade](#) is the official hashtag of the campaign, encouraging employers to provide their workers with drinking water, ample breaks, and a shaded area while working outdoors. OSHA also continues to partner with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to raise awareness on the dangers of working in the heat through its [Weather-Ready Nation](#) campaign.

## OSHA and NOAA provide guidance to protect outdoor workers from lightning strikes

OSHA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have released a [Lightning Safety When Working Outdoors](#) Fact Sheet that provides employers and workers with information about lightning hazards and protective measures that can be taken to ensure workers' safety. Often overlooked as an occupational hazard, lightning strikes can severely injure or kill workers in occupations such as construction, logging, utility repair, agriculture, telecommunications, lawn services, airport ground operations, and pool and beach lifeguarding.

## Zika Virus

The Zika virus disease (Zika) is caused by the Zika virus and is spread to people primarily from the bite of an infected *Aedes* species mosquito. These mosquitoes bite most actively in the daytime but also bite at night. There is currently no vaccine to prevent Zika infection. NIOSH and OSHA have developed [interim guidance for protecting workers](#) from occupational exposure to Zika virus. For the most current information about Zika, visit [CDC Zika Virus](#)(<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>)

## Oklahoma Safety Resources

- **OSHA:** Sign up for Quick Takes at [OSHA Quick Takes](#)
- **Oklahoma Safety Council** - Monthly luncheon meetings held in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Sign up to receive their newsletters at [OK Safety Council](#).
- **Oklahoma AIHA:** Meetings held periodically with Spring and Fall one day conferences. See [OK AIHA](#) for more information.

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