



**SAFETY**

Nebraska Building Chapter

## AGC Safety Initiative E-News

April 13, 2022

**OUR Safety MISSION:** Help each other enforce safety rules to ensure that every person on construction site goes home safe and healthy at end of the workday.

Calendar of Events – [Learn more](#)

The 3rd annual National Stand-Down to Prevent Struck-by Incidents is taking place **April 11 – 15, 2022** in coordination with National Work Zone Awareness Week.

The NORA Construction Sector Council Struck-by Work Group will host several webinars spread across that week:

- **April 14, 2022 at 1PM CDT** – [Preventing Struck-by Incidents from Dropped Tools & Other Objects](#)

[COVID-19 Resources Update](#) Updated information with quick references.

AGC of America's **COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit** <https://www.agc.org/covid-19-vaccine-toolkit>

**OSHA withdrew its [Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard](#)** and will focus on a permanent **[COVID-19 Healthcare Standard](#)**

### Many workers postponing routine health care as COVID-19 pandemic continues

More than 2 out of 5 workers have chosen to delay routine medical care since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, even as many report declines in physical health, mental health and social well-being. Researchers from The Hartford insurance company surveyed more than 1,000 U.S. workers in January. They found that 43% of respondents have delayed health care appointments since the beginning of the public health crisis. COVID-19 was cited as the leading reason for delaying care, with 47% of the workers indicating that fear of contracting the disease guided their decision. Other common reasons include difficulty getting an appointment, needing to cancel appointments because of COVID-19-related restrictions or requirements, fear of other illnesses, and lack of priority.

“It is difficult to overcome the fear and fatigue we’re all experiencing amid the COVID-19 pandemic; however, it is important that people get back to prioritizing routine health visits and screenings to stay physically and mentally healthy,” Adam Seidner, chief medical officer at The Hartford, said in a press release. “Many health conditions, such as high blood pressure or diabetes, may not be noticeable or detected without routine screenings. These types of conditions, when they continue to develop undetected, can lead to more serious health problems.”

Employers can help by:

- Offering benefits and resources that address workers’ overall well-being.
- Communicating frequently to workers about available benefits and services.
- Offering workers flexibility to prioritize their appointments.
- Leading by example by prioritizing your own appointments.

Employers play a key role in helping to remove some of the barriers to health care, which is important in helping people live active and productive lives. Employers should continue to offer the flexibility needed to ensure their employees can take key steps to improve their mental and physical health – and avoid the dangers of delayed care.

### **‘Mental Health at Work: What Can I Do?’: DOL launches PSA campaign**

Promoting mental health in the workplace is the goal of a new public education campaign from the Department of Labor.

[Mental Health at Work: What Can I Do?](#) is a public service announcement campaign that “highlights how everyone in a workplace setting – whether you’re a CEO, manager, co-worker or an employee who voluntarily identifies as having a mental health condition – can promote workplace well-being. These roles can range from setting the tone for an inclusive workplace, to providing and requesting assistance and accommodations, to being a source of support to peers and colleagues.”

Campaign resources include a video PSA – distributed to TV and radio stations nationwide – and related resources such as a workplace guide, a poster, an outreach toolkit and a mental health toolkit.

“Today, 1 in 5 working-age Americans has a mental health condition,” Labor Secretary Marty Walsh said in a March 29 press release. “As America recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, mental health-friendly workplaces will be more important than ever. This timely public education campaign reminds us that we all have a role to play and that we all benefit from flexible, supportive workplaces that promote good mental health.”

### **CONNECTED. SUPPORTED. SAFE. Construction Safety Week May 2 - 6, 2022**

Safety is a bond that unites us. It’s our connection to each other, and to something bigger than ourselves. Being **connected** gives us strength, because it means we are not alone in building a stronger, safer industry, and in creating a safe, supportive environment for our workers. **Supported** means we are here for one another, and we have each other’s backs in every possible way, providing the tools and resources necessary to ensure everyone can do their best work and return home safely every day. When we’re connected and supported, we are better able to help ourselves and our teams stay present and focused on the job. We are better able to create a culture and workplace where everyone feels **safe**. The more we stay connected and committed, the more we can show up fully to support one another. And the more we feel supported, the more safe choices we make, and the better work we deliver, leading to safer selves, safer teams and safer job sites. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Safety Initiative Goals:**

As an AGC Nebraska Building Chapter member, are you participating with:

- 100% of all AGC members and other contractors on AGC jobsites enforcing OSHA standards as they apply to falls, electrical safety and possible another topic.
- 100% of all AGC members will have set their own company goals to improve safety in their firm and have a way to measure progress towards the goal.
- 100% of all AGC members will encourage and support all contractors on their jobsites to set their own company goals for improving safety.