

TOOLBOX TALK: Emergency Preparedness By: Paul Powers, Copeland & Johns, Inc. June 2018

While emergency action plans are required on all job sites, they can save lives in the event of emergencies. According to OSHA, the emergency action plan must include the following elements:

(1) Emergency escape procedures and emergency escape route assignments;

(2) Procedures to be followed by employees who remain to operate critical plant operations before they evacuate;

(3) Procedures to account for all employees after emergency evacuation has been completed;

(4) Rescue and medical duties for those employees who are to perform them;

(5) The preferred means of reporting fires and other emergencies; and

(6) Names or regular job titles of persons or departments who can be contacted for further information or explanation of duties under the plan.

(c) Alarm system.

(1) The employer shall establish an employee alarm system which complies with §1926.159.

(2) If the employee alarm system is used for alerting fire brigade members, or for other purposes, a distinctive signal for each purpose shall be used.

(d) *Evacuation.* The employer shall establish in the emergency action plan the types of evacuation to be used in emergency circumstances.

While we often go through the motions and practice safety at work, do we take the things we learn to our homes? Imagine that it is in the early morning hours. You are awakened from a deep sleep by a smoke detector. Your house is filling with smoke. Your kids are in the other room tucked in their beds. At this point, you only have minutes to safely escape. Does your family know what to do? A home emergency action plan can save lives.

Ensure all members of your home are aware and understand your emergency plan. Ensure children know two exit routes from all rooms. Have a meeting place outside the home such as the mailbox, neighbor's house, flagpole, or a tree. Last but not least practice evacuating the house with your family. In 2017, an 8-year-old boy saved his infant sister from a house fire. When the father found his 8-year-old son, he was at their designated meeting spot with his infant sister and 5-year-old brother. The 8-year-old boy was on the phone with 911. The local fire chief stated "I think the situation could have been a lot more tragic had (the fire) happened at night or had young harry not kept calm, acted clearly and thought quickly." The things we learn at work can protect those we love at home.

These sheets may be utilized to capture important information on the jobsite. They may be modified to meet the needs of any job site or home.

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN for

Facility Name: XXXXXXXXXXXXX

GPS Coordinates

Latitude XXXXXXX Longitude XXXXXX

DATE PREPARED: XXXXXXXX EMERGENCY PERSONNEL NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS DESIGNATED DESIGNATED RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:

Onsite Project Superintendent: XXXXXXXXX

Onsite Safety Manager: XXXXXXXXXX

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

All Emergencies:	<u>911</u>
American Medical Response	<u>601-982-7911</u>
Jackson Police:	<u>601-960-1234</u>
Hinds County Sherriff's Dept.	<u>601-974-2900</u>
Poison Control	<u>1-800-222-1222</u>

UTILITY COMPANY EMERGENCY CONTACTS

ELECTRIC: Entergy 1 (800)-968-8243

WATER: City of Jackson Dial: 311 (After Hours Call: 601-960-1875)

GAS: <u>Atmos Energy 1 (866)-322-8667</u>

Telephone: <u>AT&T 1 (800)-288-2020</u>

Cable: <u>COMCAST 1 (800)-391-3000</u>

Reference:

American Red Cross (n.d.). A Home Fire Escape Plan Can Save Your Life. Retrieved from http://www.redcross.org/news/article/a-home-fire-escape-plan-can-save-your-life

New Hampshire Union Leader. (2017). Dummer boy, 8 hailed as hero for saving infant sister from inferno that destroyed family home. Retrieved from <u>http://www.unionleader.com/public-safety/dummer-boy-8-hailed-as-hero-for-saving-infant-sister-from-inferno-that-destroyed-family-home-20170728</u>