

The theme this month is:

## **VOLUNTARY NATIONAL SAFETY STAND-DOWN TO PREVENT FALLS STAND-DOWN BEFORE YOU FALL DOWN**

Voluntary National Safety Stand-Down (May 6-10, 2024)

Falls from height, one of the construction industry's "fatal four" safety hazards along with caught-in/-between, electrocution, and struck-by hazards, is the leading cause of death for construction workers. There are more than 350 fatalities and 20,000 serious injuries annually, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. Fatalities caused by falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of death for construction employees, accounting for 395 of the 1069 construction fatalities recorded in the US during 2022 (BLS data). The National Safety Stand-Down is part of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) year-round fall prevention campaign.

### **Life Saving Rule: Protect Yourself from a Fall When Working at Heights**

Fall protection equipment is designed to keep you safe when working at heights. When working at unprotected heights, you must:

- Use fall protection equipment when required
- Inspect fall protection equipment before each use
- Tie off to appropriate anchor points
- Have a plan to rescue personnel from an arrested fall

Supervisors and work team leaders please take some time this week to address the prevention of falls in your workplace: Plan, Provide, and Train.

### **Recommended Activity:**

Intentionally spend 30 minutes on area-wide housekeeping and then discuss how you and your team will work to address fall hazards and how your team can work to prevent slips, trips, and falls.

### **DARN GOOD QUESTIONS**



What plans do you and the contractors working in your area have in place today for the prevention of falls?

What steps do you need to take to reduce slip, trip, fall hazards and improve the safety of work at heights?