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INSIGHTS



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Ouch!

Burn injuries need swift, effective first aid.

First-Degree Burns are the least serious type. The affected area of skin will likely turn red and there will probably be some pain.

- Apply cool water or wrapped ice
- Cover with a clean cloth or dressing
- Take aspirin or ibuprofen to relieve pain

Second-Degree Burns are more serious since the burn goes deeper and the skin will be blistered.

- Remove clothing covering the burned area unless it's stuck to the burned skin
- Apply cool water or wrapped ice packs
- Leave blisters alone…don't break them
- Get quick medical attention

Third-Degree Burns are the most severe and may be life-threatening. The affected area will appear white or charred.

- Cover the burned area lightly with a clean cloth
- Elevate burned limbs
- Call for emergency medical assistance
- Watch for shock and administer appropriate first aid if necessary



Did You Know?

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that one person is killed every 3.5 days by forklifts in the United States, with 20,000 additional workers seriously injured each year. OSHA has identified forklifts as the sixth-leading cause of safety violations.

THINKING GREEN

Electricity usage peaks during the summer months as millions of air conditioners hum the day away outside homes and businesses. Everyone wants to stay cool, but turning the thermostat down too far is unnecessary and requires a great deal more energy. When it's 95° outside, most people will feel cool and comfortable at 78° or even 80° inside.

Aging faucets in your kitchen or bathroom (more than 10 years old) can use between 3 and 7 gallons of water per minute. If you still like their appearance, you can update them by installing faucet aerators. These small devices attach or screw into most faucets and will reduce water flow to 2 gallons a minute or less while maintaining adequate pressure.

During dry months, 40 percent of the average household's water consumption goes to outdoor watering. Gather rainfall in a rain barrel connected to the gutter system and use it to keep lawns and gardens green. Just an inch of rainfall on a 1,000-square-foot roof will accumulate over 600 gallons of fresh water. When choosing a barrel, pick a model topped with a mesh screen that will keep debris out of the barrel and a lid that prevents mosquitoes from using the water as a breeding ground.

It all Comes out in the Wash

We all know the importance of washing our hands before and after preparing food, eating, or using restroom facilities. OSHA considers sanitation important enough to regulate. The agency takes cross contamination – the transfer of a contaminant from one surface to another – very seriously. Toxic chemicals, blood-borne pathogens, and other potentially infectious materials are easily spread from hands to other surfaces.

OSHA's Sanitation Standard at 29 CFR 1910.141 gives guidance on the required number and types of hand-washing facilities an employer must provide. The regulation also says washing facilities must be kept clean and supplied with potable hot and cold, or tepid, running water. Employers have to have hand soap or "similar cleansing agent" available, too.

OSHA Issues PPE Enforcement Guidance

OSHA recently issued the Enforcement Guidance for Personal Protective Equipment in General Industry, a directive that provides enforcement personnel with instructions for determining whether employers have complied with OSHA PPE standards.

This directive replaces Inspection Guidelines for 29 CFR 1910 Subpart I, the revised Personal Protective Equipment Standards for General Industry issued in June 1995. Changes include clarifying what type of PPE employers must provide at no cost to workers and when employers are required and not required to pay for PPE. The directive also provides guidance that allows employers to use PPE that complies with current consensus standards and updates PPE enforcement policies based on court and review commission decisions.

You can download a PDF copy by clicking: http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/personalprotectiveequipment/index.html



To Peep or not to Peep

It's that time of year again when those sugary little chicks and bunnies show up in the stores and beg to be eaten. Some folks can't get enough of them and are happy to see that Peeps are now available during the Fourth of July holiday, at Halloween time, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and come full circle at Easter.

In 1953, when they were first made by hand, it took 27 hours to make a single Peep Marshmallow Chick. Today the Peeps factory, in Bethlehem, PA, hatches more than 4.2 million chicks a day. Easter bunnies and chicks come in six colors but, they all taste the same…a delicious gooey mixture of marshmallow, corn syrup, gelatin, and carnauba wax.

Every year the annual "Peep Off" competition is held in Maryland on the first Sunday after Easter to see who can eat the most Peeps in 30 minutes. The record is 102. See how Peeps are made: http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/peeps/sns-peep-factory-pg,0,792513.photogallery



SOAPBOX

Patience is a minor form of despair disguised as a virtue.

If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance.

Fashion is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months.

The young man knows the rules, but the old man knows the exceptions.

If people listened to themselves more, they would talk less.

Most of us can keep a secret…it's the people we tell it to who can't.

When a person won't listen to his conscience, it's usually because he doesn't want advice from a perfect stranger.

One of the best things people can have up their sleeves is a funny bone.

Tact is rubbing out another's mistake instead of rubbing it in.

ChemStation®

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By the Numbers



Gallons of soap delivered:
162,907,971 since 1984



Empty drums not in landfills:
2,961,963 since 1984