SAFETY ALERT – OSHA EMPHASIS PROGRAM

The North Carolina Chapter Safety Ambassador is sharing information of an OSHA National Emphasis Program and its application in North Carolina. SWANA has learned that a solid waste facility in western North Carolina recently had a visit from state OSHA. The OSHA inspector commented that OSHA currently has a National Emphasis Program on Amputations and will be conducting an increased number of inspections focusing on amputations and pinch point exposure in various industries. The OSHA inspector advised there is a heightened awareness of amputations that have occurred in the waste industry over the last few years and the focus is on looking for pinch points, nip points and hazardous energy control programs. They are interviewing employees to make sure they have a clear understanding of the hazardous energy control process. An additional key item the inspector mentioned was good housekeeping in all facilities, and SWANA reminds employers that if your facility looks good and well organized, everything else is usually in good shape.

This alert is being shared with the Chapter membership so you can be aware of this emphasis program and ensure that you are taking the risks seriously. SWANA has a free webinar coming up on June 18 that may be of particular interest, OSHA On-Site Consultation for the Public and Private Sectors. Representatives from OSHA headquarters and the Michigan Safety and Health Administration will share how both public and private sector employers can use the On-Site Consultation Program to improve workplace safety and health at no cost. OSHA is focused on getting out information on this program and helping to promote it is part of SWANA’s Alliance program plan.

For questions you may contact:

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