

# Spotlight on Safety

## Your Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, edition 4

### Message from your District Manager

As we head into fall, keep an eye out for changing conditions on your sites and in your travels – specifically other entities coming on site to perform work, and risky third party drivers (a common theme). Also beware of the impact that changing environmental factors may have on your projects. Temperature, humidity, hours of daylight and potential for thunderstorms may be issues to consider prior to undertaking work. As you depart your site, consider how you will get out and home safely – is your vehicle secured, are there posts or barriers sticking up or traffic rushing by? Your safety, and the safety of our public and our environment, is our top priority. Thanks to all for a great summer! Be safe out there. – *Jane Doe, District Manager*

### Something to think about . . .

It's deer season again, with the "rut," or mating,

season in full force from October through December for a variety of species and subspecies in the West coast region. While driving, keep these things in mind:

- **Deer tend to be most active at dawn and dusk.** Be especially watchful while driving during these times. Also, be watchful in areas with posted "deer crossing" signs.
- **Deer move in groups and are unpredictable,** so if you see one, slow down as there are likely more in the vicinity.
- **Do not swerve to avoid a deer.** Brake, hold firmly to your steering wheel, and stay in your lane. Insurance adjusters and state officials warn that swerving to avoid deer increases the risk of collision with guard rails and oncoming traffic, resulting in car damage and personal injury.
- Likewise, do not attempt to drive around a deer stopped in the roadway. Wait until your lane is clear.
- **As always, WEAR YOUR SEATBELT!**

### On the Job

Fall season is setting in on us, which means cooler temperatures and shorter daylight hours. Out in the field, teams are starting to encounter dusk-like and dark working conditions. Beware of trying to race against the clock! The emphasis is on safety – for people and the environment – not on the clock.

1 – **Stop – to consider the job.** If it cannot be completed thoroughly and safely within the present time frame and conditions, make alternate plans. Rushing through could lead to new hazards, the neglecting of safety procedures, and incomplete work.

2 – **Stop – to ensure you have proper lighting:** for you to safely facilitate the job, and for others to see you. Take the time to set up additional light sources and/or barricades to protect yourself and your staff from moving machinery and vehicles.

3 – **Never work alone.** Staying late and working alone to finish a job presents not only the risks associated with normal working policies, but also added risk with the early onset of darkness and the lack of personnel traffic or support should an issue arise.

4 – **Beware of others.** if you are driving, digging, lifting, or operating machinery. Be specifically alert during the transition from daylight to dusk, as changes in visibility may be deceptive at that time of day.



### Additional Resources

[Corporate Bi-weekly communication](http://corporation.com/communication/hsebiweeklycommunication/2009/) <http://corporation.com/communication/hsebiweeklycommunication/2009/>

[Spotlight Resource Site](http://spotlight.dataaccel.com/) <http://spotlight.dataaccel.com/> (user ID: xxxxxxx, Password: xxxxxxx)

To comment, inquire, or obtain information on any item in this publication, or to submit an item for publication, please contact John Smith at [jsmith@xxxxxx.com](mailto:jsmith@xxxxxx.com), or 123.456.7890.