

Important Message to our fellow Business Owners, Clients and Communities

We are closely following the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), local governments, and public health agencies and are prepared to navigate these challenging circumstances with everyone's safety in mind.

Our physical offices remain open to continue to serve our clients during this evolving situation. We can also be reached by phone or email, as many of our consulting services can be provided remotely. In the effort to keep our employees and customers in good health, our staff has implemented the recommended CDC best practices and enhanced health and safety protocols at our facilities.

Our sincerest gratitude for your business and the opportunity to serve you. Considering the current global situation surrounding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, we wanted to reach out and share the actions <u>MJS Safety LLC</u> is taking to keep your operations up and running.

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Because information regarding COVID-19 and its widespread effects is everchanging, articles in this month's newsletter referring to COVID-19 will show the release date of the information. We will do our best to pass along the most current information. However, if an article relates to you or your industry directly, you may want to check for any updates that might affect you.

Here are some of the many helpful Resource links:

- <u>CDC Centers for Disease Control</u>
- <u>CDPHE Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment</u>
- WHO World Health Organization
- Water and COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions
- OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
- OSHA Alert Prevent Worker Exposure to Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- DOL Resources to help Workers and Employers Prepare for the COVID-19 virus
- Colorado Works Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- Colorado PEAK Medical, Food, Cash, and Early Childhood Assistance programs



COLORADO Department of Revenue Important Messages and Updates from the State of Colorado and the Colorado Department of Revenue

Colorado COVID-19 Emergency Declarations:

Commercial Driver License (CDL) Impact during Office Closure
IRP Registration Extensions and Weight Exemptions

Effective March 10, 2020, the State of Colorado is in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 virus. In response, the State of Colorado is waiving registration late fees, providing registration extensions, and issuing weight exemptions. Full Details - <u>HERE</u>

Due to our COVID-19 precautionary measures, the Division of Motor Vehicle Driver License Offices are closing to the public effective 03/18/2020. The Division of Motor Vehicles has identified 406 CDL holders with a hazmat endorsement who have licenses set to expire during the period of expected closure. Full Details - <u>HERE</u>

► Important Update — Nine DMV Offices to Open May 4th for CDLs by Appointment Only — The Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles will reopen nine driver's license offices to commercial drivers on an appointment-only basis, starting May 4. The offices scheduled to open have been disinfected and cleaned. Glass barriers were installed at work stations to help minimize COVID-19 transmission risks. Here's the <u>link</u> for complete details.

MJS SAFETY TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

MJS SAFETY LLC is proud to announce the addition of NCCER and O.Q.S.G. to our OQ Services. **MJS SAFETY LLC** is an "Authorized Assessment Center" for Proctoring Final Assessments and completing Performance Evaluations for O.Q.S.G. and NCCER – as well as other OQ disciplines such as MEA-EnergyU, Veriforce & EnergyWorldNet. <u>call to schedule</u> <u>read more...</u>

Schedule of classes May 2020: • TRAINING CENTER - 1760 BROAD ST, UNIT H, MILLIKEN, CO 80543 • read more...

→ Distance Learning & Video Conference classes: We are excited to announce that PEC will be allowing us to temporarily offer Safeland and the PEC H2S Clear courses via video conferencing until the end of May. We are also able to offer the 1st aid/ CPR classes with an online blended learning option, and remote skills verification – as well as our In-House H2S Awareness Course. Ask about other distance learning opportunities for more information.

→ Video Conference Courses Must Be Scheduled Separately and Are Available Upon Request.

OSHA/CONSTRUCTION NEWS SUMMARY

▶ U.S. Department of Labor Issues Enforcement Guidance for Recording Cases of COVID-19

The U.S. Department of Labor's **OSHA** has issued <u>interim guidance</u> for enforcing OSHA's recordkeeping requirements (<u>29 CFR Part 1904</u>) as it relates to recording cases of **COVID-19.** <u>read more...</u>

- U.S. Department of Labor Issues Guidance for Respiratory Protection During N95 Shortage Due to COVID-19 Pandemic The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued interim enforcement guidance to help combat supply shortages of disposable N95 filtering face piece respirators (N95 FFRs). read more...
- Ten Steps All Workplaces Can Take to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Coronavirus

All workplaces can take the following infection prevention measures to protect workers: read more...

Other Resources

A <u>U.S. Department of Labor website</u> consolidates information on safety, wages, work hours, unemployment insurance and other issues related to COVID-19. <u>read more...</u>

► a note from your friends at MJS Safety

We are coping with the same struggles as all of you! Here is information from the CDC that can be helpful... read more...

TRANSPORTATION NEWS SUMMARY

Whistleblower Protections

Workers have the right to report an unsafe workplace during the COVID-19 pandemic. read more...

Notice ... 7th Annual National Safety Stand-Down To Prevent Falls in Construction has been Postponed Due to COVID-19. <u>read more...</u> WE'LL PUBLISH NEW DATES WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE



U.S. Department of Labor Considers Employer's Good Faith Efforts When Enforcing Compliance During Coronavirus Pandemic The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued interim guidance to advise compliance safety and health officers to evaluate an employer's good faith efforts to comply with safety and health standards during the coronavirus pandemic. read more...

Phased Reopening Plan for DMV

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May 4, with the opening of nine (9) Driver License offices and several of the 92 CDL Testing Units. <u>read more.</u> **FMCSA Extends HOS Emergency Declaration Through May 15**

An extension into May of hours-of-service relief for motor carriers included an addition that covers transport of gases needed for refrigeration units... read more...



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TRANSPORTATION NEWS SUMMARY cont'd

Rule Proposal Lays Out FMCSA's Plan for How States Will Utilize CDL Clearinghouse

A proposed rule published in the *Federal Register* by the FMCSA lays the groundwork for how states access the DOT's CDL Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. read more



International Roadcheck update

Safety First

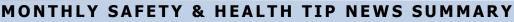
Roadcheck Inspection Blitz Out of Service Due to Coronavirus Pandemic, for Now

2019 Novel Coronavirus

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance has put its annual International Roadcheck inspection blitz out of service, at least temporarily, due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. read more...

MSHA NEWS SUMMARY

The Mine Safety and Health Administration's (MSHA) mission is to protect the safety and health of the nation's miners. read more..





Twenty seconds is roughly how long it takes for a grown man to become entrapped in a grain bin — that speed and the fear such a situation creates can make things go from

bad to worse. read more ...



GRAIN BIN SAFETY





MJS SAFETY LLC is proud to announce the addition of NCCER and O.Q.S.G. to our OQ Services.

MJS SAFETY LLC is an "Authorized Assessment Center" for Proctoring and Testing for ENERGY worldnet, Inc., as well as OQ Performance Evaluation Services.

MJS SAFETY LLC continues to offer Proctor and Testing Services, as well as Operator Qualification [OQ] Performance Evaluations under the "EnergyU" system – a service of Midwest ENERGY Association – as well as Veriforce.

MJS SAFETY LLC has "Authorized" Performance Evaluators on staff that can perform this service for specific "Covered Tasks."

MJS SAFETY LLC is also available to assist with the Knowledge Based Training for these tasks. Knowledge-based training is designed to help personnel successfully pass the OQ Knowledge Based Testing as well as the Performance Evaluation process.

The Operator Qualification Rule – commonly referred to as the "OQ Rule" addressed in Title 49 of the Code of Federal [US DOT] regulations, mandates that individuals who perform "Covered Tasks" on covered pipeline facilities be qualified through the Operator Qualification Process.

The intent of the OQ rule is to ensure protection of both pipeline personnel and the public at large. Providing individuals with the necessary knowledge and skills is an essential element of any Operator and Contractor OQ plan.

Acceptable requirements for qualification are determined by the operator. The quality and validity of data related to OQ training, testing, and performance is critical to meet these requirements.

If we can be of assistance with these types of services for your company, please <u>call to schedule</u>.

MJS SAFETY TRAINING SUMMARY

MJS SAFETY — your "GO TO" Safety Resource in 2020 "SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU"

Schedule training at our Training Center in Milliken...or On-Site at your facility

~PEC Core Compliance

~DOT Hazmat Training

~OSHA 10 Hour Construction

~OSHA 30 Hour Construction

~Hands-on Fire Extinguisher training

~MSHA Sand & Gravel Training [Part 46 only]

~Fall Protection for the Competent Person

Just Some of the Courses Offered Include:

- ~PEC SafeLandUSA Basic Orientation
- ~OSHA 10 Hour General Industry
- ~OSHA 30 Hour General Industry
- ~NUCA Confined Space
- ~Hydrogen Sulfide $[H_2S]$ Awareness
- ~Respirator: Medical Evaluation & Fit Testing
- ~Hazard Communication GHS Training
- ~Teens & Trucks Safety
- ~1st Aid/CPR Course- Medic 1st Aid
- ~HAZWOPER 8, 24 & 40 Hour
- ~PEC'S Intro to Pipeline
- ~Confined Space Rescuer Training
- ~Bloodborne Pathogens Compliance Training ~Respiratory Protection Training
- ~Respiratory Protection Training

MJS SAFETY offers these courses as well as custom classes to fit the needs of your company

Schedule of classes May 2020: • TRAINING CENTER - 1760 BROAD ST, UNIT H, MILLIKEN, CO 80543

~NUCA Competent Person for Excavation & Trenching

~Defensive Driving Safety for large and small vehicles ~Instructor Development for Medic 1st Aid/CPR

- SEE MORE INFORMATION FOR Distance Learning & Video Conference classes
- *PEC Safeland Basic Orientation: May 8, 20; 8 4:30; May 7 Virtual Safeland class *This class available via video conferencing upon request through May 31, 2020*
- *First Aid/CPR/AED/BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS (We offer MEDIC FIRST AID): May 4, 6, 19; 8 noon; *This class available for blended learning (online) with remote or in-person skills assessment*
- *Hydrogen Sulfide Awareness [*ANSI Z390 -2017 Course*]: May 6, 19; 12:30 4:30; *This class available via Instructor Led video conference*

* <u>In-person classes are limited to 9 people at this time in accordance with social distancing guidelines</u>.

[For any last minute schedule updates, go to <u>www.mjssafety.com</u>]

► NEED ANY OF THESE CLASSES IN SPANISH? CONTACT <u>carriejordan@mjssafety.com</u> TO SCHEDULE TODAY

GO TO <u>mjssafety.com</u> FOR UP-TO-DATE CLASS LISTINGS To sign up for one of these classes, or inquire about scheduling a different class Call Carrie at 720-203-4948 or Jeremy at 720-203-6325 or Mike at 303-881-2409

- FEATURED TRAINING PROGRAMS -

Safeland Basic Orientation
Hydrogen Sulfide Awareness
First Aid/CPR

OSHA 10 Hour for General Industry or Construction
Onfined Space for Construction

— ALSO OFFERING —

• PEC Basic 10 - 2 days that cover both Safeland and OSHA 10 for General Industry in 1 class

Unable to attend a class?

MJS SAFETY offers multiple "<u>ONLINE TRAINING COURSES</u>" including OSHA Construction, General Industry, Environmental, Hazardous Waste Public Safety, DOT, Human Resource, Storm Water & ISO Training Courses.

Order First Aid & other Safety Supplies www.mjssafety.com Jeremy 720-203-6325 Carrie 720-203-4948		Online courses provide a convenient way for <u>EMPLOYERS & EMPLOYEES</u> to complete <u>MANDATED, REQUIRED or HIGHLY RECOMMENDED</u> training in today's industry ~ MANY COURSES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN SPANISH ~ FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL			Need Help With ISNETworld PEC/Premier PICS BROWZ
or Mike 303-881-2409	JEREN	Y - 720-203-6325	MJS SAFETY Carrie – 720-203-4948	Міке – 303-881-2409	CALL US!!!
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SOURCES FOR THIS ISSUE INCLUDE: OSHA FMCSA MSHA CCJ DOL CDC tt Express HDT TruckingInfo State of Colorado Colorado Dept of Revenue Denver Post Farm Progress AG Daily

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OSHA/CONSTRUCTION

April 3, 2020 U.S. Department of Labor Issues Enforcement Guidance for Recording Cases of COVID-19

The U.S. Department of Labor's **Occupational Safety and Health Administration** (*OSHA*) has issued <u>interim guidance</u> for enforcing OSHA's recordkeeping requirements (<u>29 CFR Part 1904</u>) as it relates to recording cases of **COVID-19**.

Under **OSHA's** recordkeeping requirements, **COVID-19** is a recordable illness, and employers are responsible for recording cases of **COVID-19**, if the case:

- Is confirmed as a COVID-19 illness;
- Is work-related as defined by 29 CFR 1904.5; and
- Involves one or more of the <u>general recording criteria</u> in 29 CFR 1904.7, such as medical treatment beyond first aid or days away from work.

In areas where there is ongoing community transmission, employers other than those in the healthcare industry, emergency response organizations (*e.g., emergency medical, firefighting and law enforcement services*), and correctional institutions may have difficulty making determinations about whether workers who contracted **COVID-19** did so due to exposures at work.

Accordingly, until further notice, **OSHA** will not enforce its recordkeeping requirements to require these employers to make work-relatedness determinations for **COVID-19** cases, except where:

- (1) There is objective evidence that a COVID-19 case may be work-related; and
- (2) The evidence was reasonably available to the employer. Employers of workers in the healthcare industry, emergency response organizations and correctional institutions must continue to make work-relatedness determinations pursuant to 29 CFR Part 1904.

OSHA's enforcement policy will provide certainty to the regulated community and help employers focus their response efforts on implementing good hygiene practices in their workplaces and otherwise mitigating **COVID-19's** effects.

For further information and resources about the coronavirus disease, please visit **OSHA's** <u>COVID-19</u> <u>webpage</u>.

April 3, 2020

U.S. Department of Labor Issues Guidance for Respiratory Protection During N95 Shortage Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued interim enforcement guidance to help combat supply shortages of disposable N95 filtering face piece respirators (N95 FFRs). The action marks the department's latest step to ensure the availability of respirators and follows President Donald J. Trump's Memorandum on Making General Use Respirators Available.

Due to the **impact** on **workplace conditions** caused by **limited supplies** of **N95 FFRs**, employers should **reassess** their **engineering controls**, work practices and **administrative controls** to identify any changes they **can make** to **decrease** the need for **N95 respirators**.

If respiratory protection must be used, employers may consider use of alternative classes of respirators that provide equal or greater protection compared to an N95 FFR, such as National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (*NIOSH*)approved, non-disposable, elastomeric respirators or powered, air-purifying respirators.

When these alternatives are not available, or where their use creates additional safety or health hazards, employers may consider the extended use or reuse of N95 FFRs, or use of N95 FFRs that were approved but have since passed the manufacturer's recommended shelf life, under specified conditions.

This interim guidance will take effect immediately and remain in effect until further notice. This guidance is intended to be timelimited to the current public health crisis.

Visit OSHA's Coronavirus webpage regularly for updates.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. <u>OSHA's</u> role is to help ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance.

The mission of the U.S. Department of Labor is to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

Ten Steps All Workplaces Can Take to Reduce Risk of Exposure to

Coronavirus

All workplaces can take the following infection prevention measures to protect workers:

1. Encourage workers to stay home if sick.

2. Encourage respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes.

3. Provide a place to wash hands or alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol.

4. Limit worksite access to only essential workers, if possible.

5. Establish flexible worksites (e.g., telecommuting) and flexible work hours (e.g., staggered shifts), if feasible.

6. Discourage workers from using other workers' phones, desks, or other work tools and equipment.

7. Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces, equipment, and other elements of the work environment.

8. Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)approved cleaning chemicals with label claims against the coronavirus.

9. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for use of all cleaning and disinfection products.

10. Encourage workers to report any safety and health concerns.

 \rightarrow Here is the <u>link</u> for a pdf of prevention measures....

Also, see useful updated <u>OSHA information</u>, or call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).

In addition, as each state's <u>Executive Orders</u> continue to update, it is most important for you to check those updates as well as any new local information for the city/county in which you reside and/or do business.

Other Resources

A U.S. Department of Labor website

consolidates information on safety, wages, work hours, unemployment insurance and other issues related to COVID-19.



a note from your friends at MJS Safety

We are coping with the same struggles as all of you! Here is information from the CDC that can be helpful, no matter what level of concern we're feeling.



Stress and Coping

Take care of yourself and your community

Taking care of yourself, your friends, and your family can help you cope with stress. Helping others cope with their stress can also make your community stronger.

Ways to cope with stress:

- **Take breaks** from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be upsetting.
- Take care of your body.
 - Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate.
 - Try to <u>eat healthy</u>, well-balanced meals.
 - <u>Exercise</u> regularly, get plenty of <u>sleep</u>.
 - Avoid <u>alcohol</u> and <u>drugs</u>.
- Make time to unwind. Try to do some other activities you enjoy.
- Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.

Visit this <u>link</u> for complete information/resources.

► Take Care and Be Well ◄

Whistleblower Protections

Workers have the right to report an unsafe workplace during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A <u>public meeting</u> on May 13 will solicit comments on the whistleblower protection laws enforced by OSHA. The public will also be able to participate in the meeting by telephone.

March 27, 2020

Notice ...

7th Annual National Safety **Stand-Down** To Prevent Falls in Construction has been **Postponed Due to COVID-19.** WE'LL PUBLISH NEW DATES WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE



The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (*OSHA*) announced that it has postponed the 7th annual National Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction, originally scheduled for May 4-8, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event will be rescheduled this summer.

Fatalities caused by falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of death for construction employees, accounting for 320 of the 1,008 construction fatalities recorded in 2018 (BLS data).

THOSE DEATHS WERE PREVENTABLE. The National Safety Stand-Down raises fall hazard awareness across the country in an effort to stop fall fatalities and injuries.

While the National Stand-Down is postponed, OSHA encourages employers to remain vigilant and to use all available <u>resources</u> to enhance worker safety.

April 16, 2020 U.S. Department of Labor Considers Employer's Good Faith Efforts When Enforcing Compliance During Coronavirus Pandemic

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued interim guidance to advise compliance safety and health officers to evaluate an employer's good faith efforts to comply with safety and health standards during the coronavirus pandemic.

Current infection control practices may limit the availability of employees, consultants or contractors who normally provide training, auditing, equipment inspections, testing, and other essential safety and industrial hygiene services. Business closures and other restrictions may also preclude employee participation in training if trainers are unavailable and access to medical testing facilities may be limited or suspended. During an inspection, compliance safety and health officers should assess an employer's efforts to comply with standards that require annual or recurring audits, reviews, training or assessments.

Officers should evaluate if the employer:

- Explored all options to comply with applicable standards (e.g., use of virtual training or remote communication strategies);
- Implemented interim alternative protections, such as engineering or administrative controls; and
- Rescheduled required annual activity as soon as possible.

Employers unable to comply with OSHA requirements because local authorities required the workplace to close should demonstrate a good faith attempt to meet applicable requirements as soon as possible following the re-opening of the workplace.

OSHA will take employers' attempts to comply in good faith into strong consideration when determining whether it cites a violation. The agency may issue a citation if it finds an employer cannot demonstrate any efforts to comply. To ensure corrective actions employers have taken once normal activities resume, OSHA will develop a program to conduct monitoring inspections from a randomized sampling of cases where the agency noted, but did not cite, violations.

This guidance takes effect immediately, and remains in effect until further notice. It is time-limited interim guidance in effect due to the current public health crisis. Visit OSHA's COVID-19 webpage frequently for updates.



April 20, 2020

Phased Reopening Plan for DMV

A multi-State Agency plan to reopen CDL training, testing, and credentialing services will commence on Monday, May 4, with the opening of nine (9) Driver License offices and several of the 92 CDL Testing Units. This plan includes measures that will allow the reopening of offices and businesses in a manner that is safe for our customers and our employees. The offices scheduled to open have been disinfected and cleaned. Glass barriers were installed at work stations to help minimize COVID-19 transmission risks.

Reopening additional Driver License offices and expanding services will be announced in the coming weeks. A phased reopening of additional offices and service offerings will be dependent upon the COVID 19 situation.

While testing and licensing will resume, training and educational facilities will still be closed until further notice. Please check out <u>Phased Reopening Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)</u> for more information.

Phase 1 Reopening to begin May 4

The DMV worked with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the Colorado Department of Transportation and others to develop the limited openings, part of a measured effort to keep Colorado's economy rolling.

The trucking industry is critical to the US and Colorado economy. This industry is integral, delivering critical supplies to intended recipients so sustaining this industry is essential. As such, serving our commercial driver license (CDL) customers will be the first part of our phased reopening.

The plan will allow the DMV to offer first-time issuance of written exams and CDLs. The steps will help commercial drivers keep grocers and many other critical businesses stocked.

During this initial phase, the DMV will reopen nine offices for CDL appointments only:

- Aurora 14391 E. 4th Ave. Aurora, CO 80011
- Northglenn 11900 N. Washington St Northglenn, CO 80233
- Colorado Springs 2447 N. Union Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80909
- Pueblo 827 W. 4th St. Pueblo, CO 81003
- Westgate 3265 S. Wadsworth Blvd., #3A, Lakewood, CO 80227
- Loveland 118 E. 29th St., Ste F, Loveland, CO 80538
- Glenwood Springs 51027 Hwy 6 & 24 Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
- Montrose 2305 S. Townsend Ave., Unit C, Montrose, CO 81401
- Golden 16950 W. Colfax Ave, Suite 104, Golden, CO 80401

This initial phase is restricted to the following services only:

- > Issuance of Commercial Driver Licenses (CDL) to applicants who have met all the training requirements
- > Issuance of Commercial Learner's Permits (CLP)
- > Upgrade (or downgrade) of license for CDL drivers adding endorsements
- > Administration of CDL written exams

Customers <u>must call</u> 303-205-5613, option 4 in order to schedule an appointment.

Only those meeting these criteria should call for appointments at this time.

Those coming into offices for appointments must comply with the following restrictions:

- Customers should not come for an appointment if they are feeling ill or have any reason to suspect that they might have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Customers will be required to wear face masks while in the office. The mask may only be removed while their photo is being taken.
- $\boldsymbol{\diamond}$ Customers are asked to wear gloves while in the office.
- Customers should not bring guests.

Check back here for more information as work continues for opening more offices to more customers!

For Coloradans who are not commercial drivers, the DMV is making several changes to fight the spread of coronavirus, including:

- Drivers 65 and older are temporarily able to renew online at mydmv.colorado.gov.
- Coloradans 21 to 64 whose license or ID will expire during stay-at-home closure and who are unable to renew online will receive a 60-day expiration date extension.
- Drivers under 21, if eligible, can renew online their driver's license, instruction permit or identification card.

April 9, 2020 FMCSA Extends HOS Emergency Declaration Through May 15

Mullen Discusses Expanded Relief, Progress on COVID-19 Testing for Drivers

An extension into May of hours-of-service relief for motor carriers included an addition that covers transport of gases needed for refrigeration units, said James Mullen, the acting head of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

"The expansion of commodities was pretty limited," said Mullen during an April 10th interview on SiriusXM satellite radio. "We added liquefied gases, liquid CO2. These are liquid gases used in refrigeration and cooling processes."

He noted the **move** is based on **rising demand**. "There's been a **shortage** of those **liquid gases** and also a **storage issue**, also an **increased necessity** for **refrigeration**, so we **expanded** the declaration to **include** those items," Mullen said.

FMCSA issued a notice April 8 stating the <u>Emergency</u> <u>Declaration</u>, which applies to all 50 states and the District of Columbia, will remain in effect through May 15. The initial Emergency Declaration, issued March 13, was scheduled to remain in effect until April 12.

The initial FMCSA declaration granted exemption from Parts 390-399 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, which cover hours of service, parts and accessories needed for safe operation, and longer combination vehicles.

"Because emergency conditions have not abated, FMCSA is extending the Emergency Declaration and associated regulatory relief," the agency said in its notice. "This extension of the Emergency Declaration addresses national emergency conditions that create a need for immediate transportation of essential supplies, equipment and persons, and provides necessary relief from the FMCSRs for motor carriers and drivers engaged in the transport of essential supplies, equipment and persons."

The April 8 update adds the exception for liquefied gases.

Separately, FMCSA on April 9 announced it would allow thirdparty CDL test examiners who are authorized to administer CDL skills tests to also manage CDL knowledge tests without completing a training course for the test. Previously, a coalition of CDL schools, trucking companies, shippers and trade groups pressed government officials to loosen restrictions on CDL testing.

"If your DMV is closed you can't administer the knowledge test to get your commercial learner's permit, because every state does that through its state employees," Mullen said. "The majority of states already permit third-party skills testers, so you can use that same group of testers and use them for the knowledge tests.



Then, all the **DMV** has to do is **open its back** office to **process** the **paperwork** and issue the **CDL credential.**"

Mullen noted that 25,000 to 30,000 people

nationwide obtain a CDL permit each month, numbers that are set to plummet because at least 22 states have closed their Department of Motor Vehicles amid the pandemic.

In fact, Mullen **pointed** to the **DMV example** as one that **regulators** and the **industry** can take as a **lesson** from the **crisis**. "Even things **as simple** as **allowing third-party** knowledge **testing** — things that, if **there is** ever **another crisis**, or even with **technology** just as it is **today** — these are the **sort of things** that **should probably** be **permitted** and more **widely used**," Mullen said. "I think these are **things** we **probably** can **learn from**."

More near-term, Mullen said the Trump administration is exploring expanded availability of coronavirus testing to drivers.

"It's my understanding — although I'm not leading the charge on this, DOT is in a support role — my understanding is the Federal Emergency Management Agency is working closely with the relevant stakeholders and that they are coming to a solution, hopefully, here in the near future."

He noted that **FEMA** and the **trucking industry** are **cooperating** on **issues** such as **finding locations** that can handle **high-volume testing**.

The earlier **FMCSA** emergency **declarations** provided **relief** for drivers **providing direct assistance** in support of **emergency efforts** to meet **immediate needs** for:

- Medical supplies and equipment related to the testing, diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19.
- Supplies and equipment necessary for community safety, sanitation and prevention of community transmission of COVID-19 such as masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, soap and disinfectants.
- Food, paper products and other groceries for emergency restocking of distribution centers or stores.
- Immediate precursor raw materials, such as paper, plastic or alcohol, that are required to be used for the manufacture of essential items.
- Fuel.
- Equipment, supplies and persons necessary to establish and manage temporary housing or quarantine.
- Persons designated by federal, state or local authorities for medical, isolation or quarantine purposes.
- Persons necessary to provide other medical or emergency services.

April 29, 2020 **Rule Proposal Lays Out FMCSA's Plan for How States Will Utilize CDL Clearinghouse**

A proposed rule <u>published</u> in the *Federal Register* by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration lays the groundwork for how states access the DOT's CDL Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. Chiefly, if made final, the rule gives states the ability to deny issuing or renewing CDLs and downgrade existing CDLs for drivers with a positive drug or alcohol test.

FMCSA delayed this portion of the CDL Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse rule in December to provide more time to develop the process for how states will receive and use the information. The agency is asking for public comment on the proposed rulemaking through June 29. Specific questions the agency seeks information on can be found here. The notice is available for comment here.

Under FMCSA's proposed rule, states would be required to query the database for any commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit transaction, including renewals or adding an endorsement, as well as when issuing new CDLs. States then are prohibited from making the transaction if the driver has a violation reported to the **Clearinghouse**, meaning they could not renew or issue those **CDLs**. Drivers whose licensing transaction is denied would be

required to complete **FMCSA's** return-to-duty requirements and re-apply for the license.

The proposal provides two alternative methods for how states could enforce the drug and alcohol driving prohibition for existing **CDL** holders who have a violation appear in the **Clearinghouse**.

The first suggestion, which **FMCSA** says it favors, is a "mandatory downgrade" that would require states to remove the **CDL** privilege of any driver after receiving a notification from the **Clearinghouse** that a driver is prohibited from driving.

The other alternative would allow, but not require, states to receive notifications from the **Clearinghouse** when **CMV** drivers are prohibited from driving due to drug or alcohol testing violations. States would then determine whether, and how, to use the information to enhance enforcement, such as making a driver's "prohibited" status more accessible to roadside officers or use the information to take action on the license.

The rule proposal also includes a provision for drivers who receive a citation for **DUI** that does not result in a conviction. **FMCSA** proposes that drivers can only request that the agency add documentary evidence of non-conviction to their **Clearinghouse** record, which would be available to employers who query the database, rather than request to remove an employer's actual knowledge report as the original **Clearinghouse** final rule states.

MIKE: 303-881-2409



April 9, 2020 Utah Wants Drivers Entering State to Complete COVID-19 Info Form

Utah is asking everyone over 18 entering the state to fill out an electronic form gathering information on COVID-19.



Anyone entering the state of Utah via highway, including truck drivers, will be required to fill out an electronic form regarding COVID-19 as of April 10.

In an **April 8 announcement** of the <u>executive order</u>, Utah Gov. Gary Herbert said the **order** was aimed at **preventing** "**nonessential travel**," especially ahead of **Easter Sunday.** noting that this time of **year** is a popular time for **spring break travel**.

Drivers entering the state from a number of entry points, including Interstate 15 at the Arizona border, Interstate 80 at the Nevada border, and Interstate 84 at the Idaho border, will receive an automated text message through the federal Wireless Emergency Alerts system asking them to visit a link and fill out the declaration form. The alert is triggered by geofencing.

That form explains that "each person 18 years of age and older entering Utah must submit an electronic State of Utah Travel Declaration Form within three hours of entry. This declaration serves to inform individuals of Utah's current COVID-19 related restrictions and declare information that will be used by the Utah Department of Health to help track and trace COVID-19 infections that may arise from persons who enter the state of Utah from national or international travel."

The form **asks questions** such as **entry location**, name, **date of birth**, whether you have been **tested for COVID-19** in the last **14 days**, whether you are **showing** any **COVID-19 symptoms**, address, **phone number**, and specific **places traveled** in the previous **14 days**.

If someone **enters** on their **declaration** that they are **exhibiting symptoms**, someone from the **Utah's tracing team** will contact and get them **quarantined**. Having this information **will help trace** and mitigate the **spread**, according to a **frequently** asked **questions document** from the **governor's office**.

That FAQ also specifically addressed truck drivers:

Are truckers also required to fill out this form?

Yes. The Governor's Executive Order is intended for all adults who enter the state of Utah, on our roads and at the Salt Lake International Airport.

What if the motorist or trucker is only driving through Utah and doesn't actually stop anywhere in the state?

The Governor's Executive Order states that all travelers over the age of 18 who enter the state must complete the form within three hours of arriving in the state. Please keep in mind that the form should only be completed in a safe location, and not while driving.

As a trucker, I have been to more states during the last two weeks than the form allows space for.

Beginning with the most recent states you have visited, please list as many as the form allows you to list.

A local **news outlet** reported that when **asked whether** there would be a **penalty** for those who **didn't comply**, a **Utah DOT spokesman** said the **agency** did **not plan** to **"chase vehicles down** that did **not fill** out the **form."**

According to the Utah COVID-19 Community Task Force, the following locations will be alerted:

- \rightarrow I-15 at the Arizona border
- → US-491/191 at Monticello
- → US-40 at the Colorado border
- \rightarrow I-15 at the Idaho border I-84 at the Idaho border
- → US-89 north of Kanab
- ightarrow I-70 at the Colorado border
- ightarrow I-80 at the Wyoming border
- ightarrow I-80 at the Nevada border

This order went into effect at 8 a.m. on April 10 and will remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. on May 1.

Rick Clasby, **executive director** of the **Utah Trucking Association**, stated that he had **been trying** to get **clarification** from the state **Department of Transportation** about how truckers **would be affected**.

"As you can imagine, our phones have blown up" he said. Although early communication from the agency had indicated truck drivers would not have to comply, the FAQ from the governor's office in the afternoon clearly indicated truckers were expected to fill out the form.

Paul J. Enos, CEO of the **Nevada Trucking Association**, said in an **email alert late** in the **afternoon** that the **association** was trying to **get more clarification**. "If you think that this is **unconstitutional** you are **right**. This is an impediment to **interstate commerce**, which was one of the **main reasons** we jettisoned the **Articles of Confederation** and adopted our **Constitution** way back in **1789**."

In a series of tweets the morning of April 10th, the Utah COVID-19 Community Task Force emphasized that drivers will not be stopped for a COVID-19 screening and shared this <u>URL</u> for more information.

March 25, 2020 International Roadcheck update

Roadcheck Inspection Blitz Out of Service Due to Coronavirus Pandemic, for Now

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance has put its annual International Roadcheck inspection blitz out of service, at least temporarily, due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

The group **announced** it has decided to **postpone** the event, which **was set** for **May 5-7**, to later in the **year**. New **dates** for the **blitz** have **not yet** been **decided**.

CVSA notes that while **Roadcheck** has been **delayed**, roadside **inspections** and **traffic enforcement** will continue **as normal**.

"As we **urgently respond** to this **time-sensitive** crisis, we must **remain diligent** and **committed** to **ensuring** that the **commercial motor vehicles** and drivers **providing essential** goods and **services** to our **communities** are following **motor carrier safety regulations**," says **CVSA** President Sgt. John Samis with the Delaware State Police. "**Safety** doesn't **take a break.** It is always our **top priority.**"



When it's **rescheduled**, this year's **Roadcheck** will focus on driver compliance, notably electronic logging devices and hours of service, but also medical cards, **CDLs**, seat belt use and **more**.

Inspectors will **also** be making **standard checks** of lights, **brakes** and other **equipment**.

Roadcheck is the only **enforcement blitz** to be **postponed** so far, **CVSA** says, with **Operation Safe Driver Week** still **scheduled** for **July 12-18** and **Brake Safety Week** still set for **Aug. 23-29**.

Download the 2020 International Roadcheck driver requirements focus area flyer.

MSHA



Safety First 2019 Novel Coronavirus

The Mine Safety and Health Administration's (*MSHA*) mission is to protect the safety and health of the nation's miners. As long as miners continue to work at a mine, MSHA will continue to perform its statutorily-required essential functions within the parameters of the President's and Department's guidance, as well as that of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (*CDC*).



MSHA has received a high volume of questions regarding the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and both mine operator actions and MSHA actions in response. This information sheet provides practices for operators and miners to minimize the spread of Coronavirus/COVID-19 and actions MSHA is taking to do the same.

What should mine operators and miners do?

- Avoid close contact: Put distance between yourself and other people (about 6 feet). This includes not crowding personnel carriers, hoists and elevators, or other means of transportation at the mine.
- Clean and disinfect: Wipe down equipment and other frequently touched surfaces.
- Wash hands: If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, etc.
- Stay at home if you are sick.
- See additional guidance on the CDC's Prevention page

What actions is MSHA taking?

- MSHA will continue to perform its essential functions, including mandatory inspections, serious accident investigations, and investigations of hazard complaints (*imminent danger or serious in nature*).
- For the pendency of the President's National Emergency Declaration, **MSHA** has suspended **Educational Field and Small Mine Services** visits, as well as special safety and fatality initiatives that normally would gather groups of miners on-site to discuss powered haulage, electrocution, and contractor safety.
- To the extent feasible, inspectors are maintaining distance from miners while performing inspections.
- The Mine Safety and Health Administration will work with mine operators when it comes to the following recertifications:
 - Annual refresher training certification (30 CFR Part 46)
 - Surface and underground annual refresher training certification (30 CFR Part 48)
 - Certified person; sampling (30 CFR §§ 70/71/90.202)
 - Certified person; maintenance and calibration (30 CFR §§ 70/71/90.203)

Exemptions to **recertifications** will **not be granted**; however, their **due dates** will be **extended** by at **least** the time the **government** is **operating** under the **President's Emergency Declaration**.

Please note: This exception does not apply to new miner training. New miners must be trained before beginning work. Once the Emergency Declaration is lifted, mine operators should work with their respective district offices to ensure that all certifications are conducted in a timely manner.

- MSHA supports operators' efforts to minimize the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19, including screenings or questionnaires, and will encourage our inspectors to participate on a voluntary basis.
- MSHA is following all protocols for identifying MSHA inspectors or other employees exhibiting symptoms or who have had potential exposure, asking them to quarantine at home, and cleaning the relevant offices following CDC guidelines.
- MSHA recognizes that some mining operations are not running at full capacity and have limited crews working. If a mine operator alerts MSHA to changes in production at a site, MSHA will, to the extent possible, limit the number of inspectors sent to that mine for a regular inspection proportional with the mine's continuing operations.

If you have questions regarding MSHA requirements, including reporting, certifications, or plan submissions, or updates on the status of your operations and staff on-site, please contact the appropriate MSHA District Office for <u>Metal/Nonmetal</u> or <u>Coal Mine</u>.

Many state and local governments have issued emergency orders imposing closure and shelter-in-place restrictions for citizens and businesses. MSHA <u>does not have jurisdiction</u> to enforce or implement these emergency orders. If you have concerns regarding state and local emergency orders or compliance with those emergency orders, please contact the appropriate state or local government office.

To access the Department of Labor's Coronavirus resources page, <u>click here</u>.

MONTHLY SAFETY & HEALTH TIP

GRAIN-BIN SAFETY: KNOW THE HAZARDS FOR FARMERS

Twenty seconds is roughly how long it takes for a grown man to <u>become entrapped in a grain bin</u> — that **speed** and the **fear such** a **situation creates** can make things **go from bad** to **worse.**

It's **long been** known that **grain bins** are one of the **biggest safety hazards** for **farmers** who work in and **around** them. Serious and **life-threatening dangers** lurk throughout **grain facilities**, so it is imperative that **farmers** and **workers** are aware of **these threats** in order to **protect themselves** from **serious injury.**

HAZARDS OF GRAIN BINS

Engulfing and suffocation are major hazards. This is caused by many things, as <u>Illinois</u> <u>Extension</u> points out. One of those being that bins have an opening in the center where grain is pulled from, so when the door is opened and grain is being pulled out, the grain on the inside is pulled down. Workers in the bins can become engulfed and suffocated in mere moments.

Alternatively, if a worker is pulling grain that is vertically crusted inside the bin, this can cause an "avalanche" of grain that can also engulf and suffocate. Grain that is crusted on the surface can create holes underneath, called bridging; an unbeknownst farmer can climb into the bin without seeing these voids and fall under the surface.

It is **important** to note that **grain wagons** act in the same way that **bins** do, and can **cause harm** to **weaker individuals**, like children, who **can't lift** themselves **out** of the **wagon**.

Any time you enter a grain bin, be aware of constantly changing conditions and possible hazards — like lowered oxygen levels and toxic gases — all which can cause serious injury or death. Toxic gases can present themselves from fumigants that are used to prevent insect infestation while grain is stored in bins. It is recommended to wear appropriate respirators when the aforementioned situations cannot be avoided.

An **unintentional cause** of death **occurs** when **coworkers** try to save a **person** from the **bins** in an **accident**. Due to **grain** being more **resistant** and having a **strong pulling force**, rescuers are **discouraged** from any **attempts** to save their **coworker**.

Instead, <u>OSHA</u> recommends having a rescue system designed and built.

7 TIPS FOR GRAIN BIN SAFETY

- **1. Keep children out of grain bins,** beds and wagons at all times. Grain flow can cover them before anyone realizes what is happening.
- **2. Lock out the control circuit before entering** a bin, whether or not grain is flowing. Be especially careful around automatic unloading equipment.
- **3.** Have three people involved when you enter a grain bin, and enter with a rope and safety harness. In the case of an accident, it will take two people to lift you out using the equipment.
- **4. Don't count on someone outside the bin** to hear your shouted instructions. Equipment noise may block out your calls for help.
- **5. If you become trapped in a bin** of flowing grain with nothing to hold onto but you are still able to walk, stay near the outside wall. Keep walking until the bin is empty or grain flow stops. If you are covered by flowing grain, cup your hands over your mouth, and take short breaths until help arrives.
- **6. If another person becomes submerged in grain**, assume he is alive and begin rescue operations immediately. Turn on the fan to move air into the bin. Cut large holes around the bin, approximately 5 ft. up from the base, to empty grain. (If you cut too many holes, the bin may collapse on you.) Use the front-end loader of a tractor, an abrasive saw or an air chisel. A cutting torch is a last resort it could cause a fire or an explosion from dust and fumigant residue.
- **7. Never attempt a rescue** by going into the grain yourself. Call 911. Your local emergency team has the training and equipment to do the job safely.



GRAIN BIN SAFETY