



ANNOUNCEMENTS

S-50 Parking Lot Striping and Numbering:

- Select parking lot locations at the Facilities Services Complex will be closed after 1:00p on Friday, June 2 to Monday morning, June 5th. During this closure, ALL service and personal vehicles must be parked in other available spaces at the complex or at the Concord property. Please refer to your email for more parking details and the attached map outlining the closed sections. If you have questions, please reach out to Randy Huelsman at rhuelsma@utk.edu or Rick Gometz at egometz@utk.edu.

What's New with Concur?

- For those that attended the meeting with DASH town hall, remember that the updated FI0705-Travel policy becomes effective June 1st. For more information, register on K@TE for the informational session regarding the changes to the Concur travel system on June 1st from 11am-12pm on zoom! Look out for more informational sessions on the new policy and changes to the Concur travel system on June 21st, 22nd, and the 23rd. If you have any questions about the updated policy or the Concur platform, please email the UT Travel Team at travel@tennessee.edu.

TCRS/ Retire Ready TN

- If you are thinking about retiring and would like to plan ahead, schedule a retirement briefing with Jeff Flowers on June 15th between 9am-5pm. For those that are interested contact David Webb in HR for available appointments.

Sick Leave Bank

- Sick Leave Bank open enrollment ends June 30th! Contact David Webb in HR for the appropriate forms.

Helpful Hint from the Haberdasher

- Supervisors and Foremen, your help in the following matter is greatly appreciated. It is VITALLY important that if you move to a new location or more importantly a new shop, that you have your uniforms re-tagged! To get them re-tagged just follow the steps outlined in the Helpful Hints from the Haberdasher" document. If you don't have one, ask your supervisor what to do or see Jim Tolbert in FSC to get one. For more information, contact Jim Tolbert at thehaberdashe@utk.edu.

NEW! Facilities Workout

- Join us for our first exercise class this Thursday, June 1st, at 5 p.m in FSC room 101 & 102. Helen Hennon and Be Well have teamed up to organize a bi-weekly class every Tuesday and Thursday that will include a warm-up, moderate cardio, and stretching. Make sure to bring a water bottle and comfortable clothes! If you have any questions, please email Helen Hennon at hhennon@utk.edu.

Weekly Safety Stand Down:

- Being aware of your surroundings is a safety skill that is used in your everyday personal and professional lives. Melanie Reese, our safety coordinator, gives 7 steps on how to raise your situational awareness. Check out pages 11 and 12 of the FS Weekly for more information.

BUILDING SERVICES

Student Union Phase 1 & 2

- The dock area of the Student Union was blown out and pressure washed.
- Monumental stairs in both phases were sectioned off and scrubbed with stripper.
- The carpet in ballroom A was cleaned.
- Spot removal on the carpets in event rooms was done as needed.
- Detailed dusting in between events occurred on the third and second floors.

Weekly continues on next page



BUILDING SERVICES (CONT)

- Special attention to the dusting of base boards and windowsills happened in Union Station.
- The seating area behind Starbucks and Union Deli, the floors were scrubbed and high speed for a clean polished look.

Panhellenic

- Attention to removing the drywall dust on the first and second floors continued.
- The desks and tables on the first floor were cleaned.

OPERATIONS & LANDSCAPE

LANDSCAPE SERVICES

- Landscape Services welcomes new student worker: Nic Boyd!
- Landscape Services Staffing Study: Revise greenspace data to reflect campus changes to the landscape since 2015.
- Event Lawns: Verticut bermuda turf lawns and lower mowing height for summer.
- Summer Utility Projects: Heavy Equipment Team is developing plans with Utility Services to provide excavation support for summer projects.
- College of Law Landscape Renovation: Coordinating with contractor for June installation. (cont)
- Irrigation Systems: Spring start-up and test of all systems (cont)
- Native Burial Mound and Garden: Repair damages to mound and stone council ring from truck incident (cont)

- Sidewalk project between G-16 and Haslam Practice Field: Installation of landscape plantings. (cont)
- Urban Forest Master Plan (City of Knoxville): Serving on advisory board
- Dead plant replacements: Plant inventory and replacement planning for dead plants associated with the winter freeze on December 24, 2022 (cont)
- CDL Driver Training and Licensing: Alexander McConnell is attending a four week course which includes course instruction, on-road training, and licensing test (cont)
- Military War Dog Memorial: Landscape irrigation and planting renovation in preparation for the 25th anniversary celebration in July (cont)
- Morgan Hall: Ongoing landscape protection support associated with roof repairs, window replacement, and brick tuck-pointing project.
- Carrick Hall: Plan for surface repairs following the excavation support for steam and condensate repairs (cont)
- McCord Hall: Plan for surface repairs following the excavation support for new sanitary sewer connection (cont)
- Neyland Drive Campus Entrances: Demolition and installation of landscape renovations. (cont)
- Vet Med Addition: Participate in the final irrigation and landscape punch list walk with the designer and contractor (cont)
- Landscape Academy: New series of refreshed training for all team members (cont)
- Irrigation Systems: GPS locate all underground valves, meters, and components. (cont)
- TREC: Provide excavation support to the Plumbing team for repair of steam condensate leak (cont)
- Ayres Hill ADA staircases: Coordinate with FS Design on landscape plan for new staircases (cont.)
- Recruiting to fill vacant positions.



RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

- Spent the week moving critical equipment from SERF to Dabney, Buehler, ETREC Plant Sciences Farm, and Zeanah Engineering in preparation of the outage.
- Delivery, set up, and take down of events at: Pedestrian Walkway, Ayres Hall Lawn, Natilie Haslam Music, Lauricella Center, Strong Hall Atrium, Tyson Alumni House, Sorority Village, Circle Park, Hodges Library, Mossman, Ferris Engineering Quad, Ayres Hall North Plaza, Student Union Phase I Vol Shop.
- Moved furniture and delivered surplus at: Henson Hall, Dougherty, Morgan Hall.
- Maintenance/replacement of worn and weathered banner hardware across campus.

SANITATION SAFETY

- Completed pest control requests
- Provided customer service for all calls

ZONE MAINTENANCE

ZONE 1

- Got work orders caught up for the year.
- Flipping Magnolia and Robinson getting them ready for the first conference.
- Rackley roofing will be doing repairs on Dogwood & Magnolia ,and Sorority Village.

- Had a hot water line burst Friday at Geier Hall we got repaired and back online by Saturday morning.

ZONE 2

- Zone 2 drained and cleaned both fountains.
- Responded to lots of heating/cooling calls.

ZONE 3

- Zone 3 is continuing to repair outside lighting of buildings around campus.
- Worked on restrooms and air handlers in Hodges Library.
- Checked air handlers and greased equipment at Tylor Law
- Assisted EMS on building inspections.
- General maintenance in Zone 3

ZONE 4

- Replaced cooler/ice maker in the Student Union Phase II
- Worked on grill and proofer at Anderson Training
- Replaced a cooler fan motor at Mabel's Cafeteria
- Replaced serving area lights to LED at Cumberland Ave. Food Court
- Replaced a rack washer solenoid valve at Rocky Top Dining
- Worked on flat top grill at Volunteer Hall Southern Kitchen

Weekly continues on next page



ZONE 5

- Neyland Stadium: checked and made repairs as needed and worked on leaks on 2nd and 3rd South bathrooms.
- Football Complex: Checked and adjusted chemicals in the pools (cont)
- Allen Jones Aquatic: Checked and adjusted chemicals in the pools (cont)
- Sherri Parker Lee Stadium: Worked on Stadium check and made repairs after Regional and ahead of Super Regional.
- Lindsey Nelson Stadium: Checked and replaced lights as needed
- General building maintenance throughout Zone 5

- Our One-Call team continues to answer calls 24/7 for the entire UTK campus.
- We will start to focus our attention on our classrooms now with the end of the semester.
- We still have 1st and 3rd shift openings for our One-Call team available. If anyone knows of anyone wanting a challenge for calls from various parts of campus properties that can include any type of problem . . . please have them apply!

ZONE 9

- We had to replace a 25HP motor in an air handler at the Middlebrook building.
- Our weekly Archibus work requests will be an area of focus for us this week.
- We continue to assist our new customers in the Middlebrook building.

ZONE 6

- No new report

ZONE 7

- No new report

ZONE 8

- We have been working to make changes to the boiler system at JRTU to help it work correctly and more efficiently.
- One of our PRV's has apparently failed on our domestic coldwater lines at the Plant Biotech Building which will require replacement. We have had multiple plumbing issues throughout the building the past few weeks.

LOCK & KEY SERVICES

- Mossman – Flip hardware on door
- Nursing Education – reset door combinations
- HPER – Repair stairwell door
- Auxiliary Services – rekey lock
- Communications – install combination lock
- Student Services – rekey suite for new occupants
- Front Office – Processing key request, key pickup and drop off
- University Housing – many recores and repairs, assisting as needed
- ON Campus – Assisting as needed



SUSTAINABILITY

Weekly Recycling Totals as of 5/15:

Bottles/Cans: 3,520 lbs.

Paper: 8,640 lbs.

Cardboard: 0 lbs.

Total: 12,160 lbs.

Fiscal Year Recycling Totals as of 5/15:

Bottles/Cans: 182,157 lbs./ 91.08 tons

Paper: 335,080 /167.54 tons

Cardboard: 184,620 lbs./92.31 tons

Yearly Total: 959,686 lbs./ 479.84 tons

- Composted a total of 20,200 lbs of food waste, 9,400 lbs of animal waste, and 3,650 lbs of landscaping waste.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Send any photos of your work team that you'd like to see featured on FS social media directly to Sam at sjones80@utk.edu or 865-771-1531!
- A date will be announced soon for our summer picnic. Keep an eye out for details.
- Directors - Don't forget that your FPI data is due! Please turn that back into Sam ASAP.

TRAINING

Design Your Life! – This program offers you an opportunity to connect the dots between who you are, what you believe, and what you do to construct a story of meaning and purpose that encompasses your life and career. This process will help you understand why you do what you do, and more importantly, why it matters. To express interest in registering for this course, please contact Rebecca Alcorn at ralcorn@utk.edu.

APPA has already started a great list of webinars available to all of us for free! Take a look at the list of available learning opportunities at the link here. Register now for those that are in a topic area that interests you. If you have your CEFP, AIA, or any other professional certification, register for these webinars to work on your continuing education credits. Bookmark the link above to check in throughout the year for additional learning opportunities.

Training News:

Training Calendar is available online! Visit <https://fs.utk.edu/comminfo/training/> to view upcoming training dates, times and information throughout the year. The calendar is located below the "Login for online training" link. Check back often as new events and opportunities are added often!

FS IT

IT has been working on:

- Classification Assistance
- Inventory
- Phishing Email Assistance
- New Computer Installations and Upgrades
- Printer Maintenance
- Work from Home Assistance
- Accounts Payable Listserv Maintenance
- Email Troubleshooting
- Network Connection Research

Looking for an update or information on the DASH implementation process? Visit <https://liveutk.sharepoint.com/sites/DASHProgram> to learn more!

Weekly continues on next page



UTILITIES SERVICES

A/C SERVICES

- S&E assist with the power outage
- Stokley Hall- cleaned dirty smoke detector
- Fred Brown- cleaned dirty smoke detector
- Robinson Hall- cleaned dirty smoke detector
- Laurel Hall- replaced the broken pull station
- Geier Hall- cleaned dirty smoke detector
- HPER- cleaned dirty smoke detector
- Troubleshoot fire alarm troubles at 1804 Frat
- TBA reset fire alarm
- Reset fire alarm at 1832 Frat
- Baseball outlet not working for coolers
- Reese Hall- cleaned the dirty smoke detector
- HPER- replaced bad smoke detector
- Music- reset duct det. on the second floor
- Sigma Kappa- replaced the smoke detector
- KPb- trouble shoot beam detector issues
- Welcome Center- reset duct detector
- Boat house assist simplex with repairs
- TREC- clean dirty smoke detector
- Mossman assist MASCO with five inspection
- Laurel Hall- cleaned three dirty smoke detectors
- Massey Hall- cleaned dirty smoke detectors
- Delta Zeta- duct detector trouble reset and cleared
- Food Safety assisted Rapid Fire with hood testing
- International House Assisted Rapid Fire with Hood testing
- TREC Fire Alarm Trouble; no answer on the relay device
- Soccer Fire alarm trouble caused by pressure washing
- JARTU- cleaned the dirty duct detector.
- Mossman Assist MASCO.
- Replaced bad AV on the patio at 1816 Frat
- Strong Hall assisted MASCO with 5-year inspection
- Clement Hall- cleaned the dirty smoke detector
- Hess Hall- cleaned dirty smoke detector
- Tri Delta clear trouble on fire alarm trouble
- Melrose F Trouble shoot fire alarm trouble
- Anderson Training- trouble on fire panel, warm start and it cleared
- Softball- reset duct detector trouble
- Communication- rest beam detector alarm
- Daily assist MASCO with pump tests and inspections.
- Walter's Life started changing out the last of the busted chill water coils
- Museum replaced the expansion valve on the chiller
- Strong Hall started repairing the walk-in freezer in room #514
- TREC- start the cooling tower replacement project
- Stokley Hall- repaired the reach-in cooler.
- Physics- cleaned multiple chilled water coils in AHUs
- Serf- checked on equipment daily that is working on the generator
- Neyland Thompson- replaced condenser fan motors on York Chiller
- Student Union- repaired equipment at Steak and Shake
- Mossman- repaired Lakos tower filter
- Fleming Warehouse- repaired the cooler
- Music- replaced cooling tower fill valve
- Hesler 529- worked on heating system

Weekly continues on next page



ELECTRICAL SERVICES

- Troubleshooting and repair duties for a 3-phase heater at South and East stadium (Neyland)
- Lighting control box at Student Union
- Outside Lighting at Pratt
- De-termination of electrical feeds at Stokley Management Center IT room
- Lighting at Mossman Engineering Building
- Programmed lighting controls at Strong Hall and Haslam Business
- Installation of electrical components was executed at Hesler Biology
- New variable frequency drive at Hesler chiller building
- Pulled feeder wire for two 225-amp panel boards
- Performed terminations at Mossman Engineering Building
- Coordinated and installed temporary power for On-campus Events
- Performed electrical troubleshooting and repairs of Campus outside lights at the Vet School
- Reese Hall Chiller Building and answered fire alarm/ Fire Panel trouble
- Ran 4/0 cam-locks cables inside the building and onto different floors to power areas by rented generators outside for the 2-week outage, to replace several ATS and installed a new generator at SERF
- Daily 1-811's
- SERF safety meeting – checked voltage meters on the transformer (make sure working).
- Turned off the one-energized larger transformer. Re-checked the voltmeter
- LOTO the way on Vista for the transformer (turned off) with Massey and Eaton. Both started their work and turned both transformers back on after they were finished.
- Concord/ TREC picked up the boom truck and trailer and reloaded the steel for the new chiller replacement on the roof. Parked at Concord, to be delivered to site on Wed. Assisting the A/C shop.
- Reese Hall Ordered a new campus standard pole and new LED fixture with globe, to be replaced from the vendor hitting and damaging it.
- Circle Park- made repairs to the broken box that was covering wires for a bollard light that was hit and damaged.
- Daily TN 811's
- SERF on-site making sure all power is working, checking generators and checking on the work Massey is doing to the new ATS.
- W.L.S. assisting the A/C Shop with Boom Truck lifting new coils onto the roof of the building, from the alley, upper side of the building. Still have to lift off the old ones from the roof and load them into their truck after they replace the new ones.
- Pat Head Summit (baseball)- made repairs to circuit #3; riser ring has issues. Saw cut the asphalt, later on; to be able to change out the riser.



PLUMBING SERVICES

- Senter Hall PVI leaking in B-4
- Strong Hall recirculation pump leaking in room 214
- Hesler Biology toilets will not flush on the fourth floor
- Acid drain stopped up in lab room 172 UT Inst. Advance Material
- Bio System soil science drain line for air handler stopped up in room 165
- Delta Zeta Sorority 3" PVC drain leaking in mechanical room 116
- South Stadium 1st floor galvanized pipe busted on water supply
- Law Library water fountains at elevator 3rd floor not working
- Clarence Brown toilets in the men's restroom came loose from the wall
- Lake Ave Daycare needs a new faucet for the janitorial sink
- Magnolia Hall G.O. 115 ¾ per water line broke on the hot water line
- South greenhouse trap premises leaking above the ceiling in the men's bathroom
- South Carrick Leslie leaking in the machine room
- Brown Hall drains stopped up in the kitchen at the grease trap
- UT Drive Service Building Drain Clogged in Room 107
- Strong Hall Penthouse 6" Fernco Leaking at the drain

STEAM PLANT

- Put Safety Chains on oil Platform
- Painted oil platform supports
- Worked on placement for piping for oil platform
- Test ran 2MM Generator

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

- Alpha Delta Pi: Renovate 1st floor restroom
- Art and Architecture: Renovate 455; Carpet 103A & B
- Ayers Hall: New work station 313
- Bailey Education: Electric A232; Paint and carpet A227; Paint and carpet several rooms on 3rd floor; Paint and carpet 413, 419, 420, A218; ADA Upgrades; Patch and paint 208,406, 210
- Baker Center: New offices on 3rd floor
- Bass Building/Body Farm: Replace storage shed
- Biosystems Office Building: Wiring for cubicles
- Burchfiel Geography: Divide 402 and 403 into smaller rooms
- Business Incubator: Paint 207
- Campus: Refurbish outdoor basketball courts behind Fraternities; VFI winners 2022; Trash and recycling pads on Lake Ave.; Aramark assistance at several locations; Water meters for cooling water make-up; Sculpture Maintenance
- Carrick Hall North: Paint all floors
- Classroom Renovations 2023: Multiple buildings on campus

Weekly continues on next page



CONSTRUCTION (CONT.)

- Claxton Building: Paint 342; Remove Cabinets and door-patch and paint 425; Move 4th floor furnishings; Paint A525; Paint, door, electric 426; Mount monitor 234; Change 4th floor women's restroom to all gender restroom
- Clement Hall: Install trash compactor
- Communications: Paint 292, 333, 432A, 432C, 432D and 434; New lobby sign
- Conference Center Building: Move State Comptroller 307; Paint and carpet 4th floor; Renovate Suite 313; Redesign suite 309; Paint 308B
- Dabney Buehler: Replace fume hoods in 408, 507, 508, 607, 608; Install dishwasher 302
- Dougherty Engineering: Paint and carpet 423; Carpet 434, 435; Remove lab equipment 103A; Renovate restrooms on 1st and 3rd floors
- Early Learning Center: Work on White Ave. playground; Hang magnetic boards for playground; 2010 Lake Ave.- hang a TV and assist with furniture removal; Install new stove
- Equity and Diversity: Install a ramp
- Facilities Services: Reinstall wind turbine; Add grill in supply duct equipment 101; Stabilize marble on Office Building; Tint 4 windows in Central Supply warehouse; Window graphics
- G-13 Garage: Install counting system
- Glazer Building: Renovation for classroom
- HPER: Fire Alarm paging; Paint and repairs B025A; Paint and carpet 119
- Haslam Business Building: Switch access controls to UTPD server; New atrium signage; Paint around display 327
- Hesler Biology: Electric work 114; Additional room exhaust 544; Rework HVAC and add mini split 234; renovate 104 and 105 for labs; Emergency electric receptacles 207
- HPER: Install concrete pit 135E; Paint and floor repair B025A; Paint 335, 347, 338
- Hodges Library: Voice transmittal over Fire Alarm; Renovate suites on 1st and 6th floors; Assist with installation of people counters at Melrose entry
- Humanities and Social Sciences: New office and other renovations in Reading Center
- Kingston Pike Building: Paint and carpet majority of building
- Lindsey Nelson Stadium: Electric and fire suppression 208
- McClung Museum: Paint and floor work in Egypt gallery; Fence around IT equipment
- McClung Tower: Install lockers 308
- McCord Hall: Renovate 109; Electric work 113
- Melrose Hall: Move signage
- Middlebrook Building: Renovate offices on 1st floor, front of building; Move Emergency Management to 218
- Morgan Hall: Paint 104 and 308F; Paint, carpet, lighting and blinds Suite 225; Paint and electric 121; Paint and carpet 308B
- Mossman Building: Modify 535 for research
- Neyland Stadium: Structural inspection and repairs Gate 22
- Nielsen Physics: Paint, flooring, ceiling M105A
- Panhellenic Building: POCA Renovations

Weekly continues on next page



CONSTRUCTION (CONT.)

- Pendergrass Library: New entry doors
- Phi Delta Theta: Install new flood lights
- Pi Kappa Alpha: Renovate bathrooms
- Plant Biotech: Reroute sewer line
- Plant Science Unit (Alcoa Highway): Guardrail and ditch work on new road
- Presidential Court: Renovation for University Printing and Mail
- Reese Hall: Paint entire building
- Senter Hall: Electric and utility work for JEM unit
- SERF: Renovations for 106 and 108; Plumbing 519; Electric and lab exhaust 109
- Sigma Chi Fraternity: Replace window & add bottle filler; Replace HVAC system
- Sigma Kappa Sorority: Replace carpet in library
- Sorority Village: Add card reader to gate; Convert open space to offices on 2nd floor
- South and East Stadium: Repair pedestrian bridge
- Steam Plant: Gates and bollards
- Stokely Hall: Digital signage for cafe
- Strong Hall: Lab renovation in 720F
- Student Aquatic Center: Convert 102B into an office
- Student Health: Renovate 288A and 288B for offices; Fire Alarm paging
- Student Rec: Remove wall between studio 8 & 10
- Student Services: Renovate Suite 413
- Student Union: Painting in Suite 383; Hold open closers on 2 connector doors; Move Big Orange Pantry to Smokey's Closet; Digital signage for deli; Paint 193R; Electric work 281
- Thompson-Boling Arena: digital signage Arena Café
- UT Drive Services Building A: Move cubicles to 103
- UT IAMM: Electric and utility work G025; Electric work G026
- UT Warehouse: Make 2 offices into 1 large office 123/106
- Vet Med Center: Paint study rooms in Pendergrass Library
- Volunteer Hall: Paint stairways
- Volunteer Parking Garage: Repair block at water line repair
- Walters Academic: Install receptacles and white boards 2nd floor; Carpet E210
- Zeanah Engineering: Additional electric work in wood and metal shops; Electric and lab exhaust 402; Move lab from SERF 108 to 517; Add a door to 210B; Electric work in G112; Exhaust work in 313; Change receptacle and circuit breaker 111
- Zeta Tau Alpha: Paint bathroom; Replace some indoor lights; Interior painting; Paint shutters and columns; Move projector screen, install TV's
- 1610 University Ave.: Hold open on corridor door
- 2023 Classroom Upgrades: Renovate several classrooms on campus
- 22nd Street Duplex: Make restroom accessible

Weekly continues on next page



WEEKLY SAFETY STAND DOWN

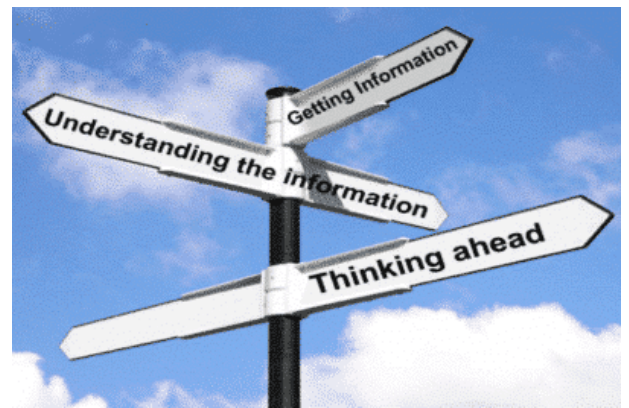
Welcome to the Weekly Safety Stand Down. This section will include short safety topics that will hopefully make you think a little deeper about safety. Enjoy!

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Think about the last person who walked past your workstation.

Who was it? What was the color of their shirt? Were they carrying anything?

Being aware of your surroundings is a safety skill that is used in your everyday personal and professional lives. Situational awareness is being aware of what is going on around you so you can anticipate things happening and take action, ideally before it happens.



When you are situationally aware, you're cognizant and continuously aware of your surroundings at any given moment. Often, situational awareness is thought of in regards to hostile events, but it is something that should be considered in the context of everyday life. Situational awareness is about getting in the mindset of consciously knowing what you're doing and observing your surroundings.

7 Steps to Situational Awareness:

- 1. Be mindful:** Practice the art of being 'in the moment'. When you are aware of your surroundings, your bodies senses are all fully activated. Your sense of hearing, smell, and seeing react a lot quicker. We often get very focused on our tasks and block out our surroundings.
- 2. Identify exits:** Plan your exit, even if it is not through a traditional exit route. If something happens and you need to escape, where are you going?
- 3. Observe people without staring:** Being aware of the people around you and observing how they react, express themselves, use body language, and so on, is a great way to maintain situational awareness.
- 4. Notice body language and nonverbal cues:** You can tell a lot about how a person's feeling through nonverbal communication. Does their body language match with what they're saying? Are they nervous in a situation that maybe does not match that emotion?
- 5. Limit distractions:** Being distracted makes you more vulnerable. We can't always eliminate distractions around us, but we can reduce them. When our eyes are focused on a task and we have earbuds in, we have taken away two senses. Removing the earbuds allows you to hear what is going on around us.

Weekly continues on next page



WEEKLY SAFETY STAND DOWN

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS (CONT.)

6. Trust your gut feeling: If you feel uneasy about the situation around you, someone, or someplace, and your gut is telling you something feels wrong, trust your instincts. Even if there is no danger, learn to trust your gut, better safe than sorry.

7. Be strategic: Being alert, continuously monitoring the area around you, and limit your distractions, all improve your situational awareness and makes you less vulnerable to someone who may be looking for an easy target.

How does situational awareness tie into work safety? Being aware of your workplace and your surroundings helps you to identify hazards. Identifying exits from your workspace ahead of an emergency can give you the extra seconds you may need to escape danger.

Being aware of the people around you and their behavior can be key in identifying body language that does not match the environment. Also, body language can help you identify if someone is comfortable completing a job task. If they seem nervous or apprehensive, ask questions.

Distractions are all around us and come in many different forms. Try to limit the distractions around you or work in a team and have someone monitor the area. This is very important when working around moving equipment.

Trust your gut feelings; if your gut is saying “this is not safe”, it probably isn’t safe.

Be strategic and plan your work task. This gives you the opportunity to identify hazards and address them before an issue arises.

Stay Safe!

Melanie Reese, Safety Coordinator