



*August marks National Water Quality Month.* As the month winds down and you head out for Labor Day, perhaps to enjoy one of Idaho's lakes, rivers, or reservoirs, take a moment to consider how water quality and water quantity issues impact Idaho's well drilling industry.

Public concerns for a safe and sustainable water supply are key drivers behind the regulatory practices as well as licensure and continuing education requirements impacting your business. Here are some examples.

On the water quality side, a proposed change in EPA's guidelines defining an "improved sinkhole" for Idaho's Class 5 injection well program for agricultural wells and recharge threatens to hold hostage—at least temporarily—the Class 2 injection well program for Idaho's oil and gas industry. Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR), responsible for managing Idaho's injection well program, is resisting the new definition. Department of Lands (IDL), that regulates the oil and gas program, and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), whose responsibilities include monitoring water quality, support the change. Anything that potentially impacts water sustainability impacts drillers.

On the water quantity side, declining aquifers across the state impact where and how wells may be drilled. To stabilize and recover ground water levels on the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA), extending from Ashton to the Hagerman Valley, the state, ground water users, and municipalities on the ESPA will attempt to recharge a combined total of almost 300,000 acre-feet per year over the next 10 years. IDWR is also considering the creation of a ground water management area (GWMA) on the ESPA. If the declines are not reversed and/or a GWMA is created, drilling permits and practices could be impacted.

IDWR and IGWA, in response to a governor's executive order for all state agencies to review their licensing requirements, will work together over the next year to review licensure requirements for well drillers. Responding to membership concerns, IGWA's Continuing Education Committee (CEC) and board of directors are also discussing potential changes to licensure and continuing education requirements. One potential change being considered is to reduce the licensure requirement from 14 to 12 credits every two years. No changes have been made. Any potential changes would not be effective until after April 2018. The board declined to reduce the two credits of state rules and regulations required in every two-year licensure cycle. Those credits ensure drillers are up-to-date on state regulations impacting public health and safety.

As a service to our members who license out of state, IGWA will continue to offer two credits of rules and regulations for Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Likewise, IGWA will continue to offer a pump track at its annual convention. Idaho and Montana are now the only states in the region who do not require pump installers to be licensed. The pump track helps our members meet their out-of-state licensing and continuing education requirements.





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#### IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD APPROVES FUNDS FOR TWO ADDITIONAL PROJECTS TO INCREASE CAPACITY TO EASTERN SNAKE PLAIN AQUIFER RECHARGE PROGRAM

IDAHO FALLS - (Aug. 2, 2017) - During its bi-monthly meeting, the Idaho Water Resource Board voted to approve \$730,000 for two new projects that will increase the capacity of the board's managed recharge program.

One of the projects to be build in the Mid-Snake region will include new turnout structures and head gates on the Richfield-Dietrich Canal. It will add an additional 100 cfs of recharge capacity from the Big Wood and Little Wood Rivers, said Wesley Hipke, recharge project manager for the board. The water will flow into a 50acre lava basin overlying the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA). The estimated project cost is \$150,000, he

In the Upper Snake River Valley, the board approved \$580,000 to expand the Egin Lakes recharge canal, adding 60 cfs to the capacity of the projects. The board was also briefed on a status of a hydropower bypass project under development that will increase the winter-time recharge capacity in the North Side Canal by 130 cfs. Noting that the board's goal is to recharge an average of 250,000 acre feet of water into the ESPA each year, Hipke provided a recap from the historic winter of 2016-17 in which the board recharged a record 317,714 acre feet of water at a cost of \$2.4 million in conveyance fees to participating canal companies and irrigation districts. The entities that convey recharge flow through their canal systems and into recharge sites are compensated based on the number of days and amount of water delivered.

"We are continuing to look for new recharge partners to expand our recharge capacity and provide flexibility and redundancy in the system," Hipke said.

The board intends to develop enough system recharge capacity to maximize recharge diversions during high water years in order to offset periods when less water is available for recharge or when recharge diversion is limited due to canal maintenance or other Snake River system operational constraints, he said. The board can reach its average annual goal 250,000 acre-feet if at least 840 cfs is recharged for 150 days. This year, the board was able to recharge for over 221 days.

"This is a perfect example of the need for enough system capacity and recharge partners to make the most of a year with abundant water supply," Hipke said.

In a related matter, Mike McVay, water resources engineer for the Idaho Department of Water Resources, gave a presentation on the estimated change in ESPA storage volume based on ground water level measurements through March 2107. Calculations from ground water level measurements indicate an increase in aquifer storage of about 660,000 acre feet. The increase can be attributed to board managed recharge, reductions in ground water diversions and managed recharge associated with the Surface Water Coalition Settlement Agreement of 2016, as well as an exceptional water supply year.

"This is good news for the ESPA. We are pleased to see improvements in the ground water levels, but we recognize that the effort to stabilize and recover the aquifer must continue into the future and must include participation from all water users," said board chairman Roger Chase.

In other news, the board:

Extended the term for a loan to 10 ground water districts in the Eastern Snake Plain for two projects that will help resolve water-use conflicts on the ESPA.

Approved a \$20,000 loan to the Goose Lake Reservoir Company to perform a structural evaluation of the Goose Lake Dam. Company officials are seeking to repair or replace the south retaining wall at the dam.

Took a field trip to Island Park Reservoir to view shoreline properties and infrastructure.

The board has hired a consultant to evaluate the potential effects of raising the water surface elevation of the reservoir. The additional water would be used to improve recreation and fishery conditions in the reservoir and river downstream, and to provide additional storage water for use in the Henry's Fork Basin, on the ESPA, or to meet minimum stream flows downstream. Received a presentation from the City of Idaho Falls about its water supply system. The board toured a few of the city's water system facilities including one of its ground water wells and one of its sewage treatment plants. one of its sewage treatment plants.

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## How Are Your Employees Advertising?

Any business owner with employees hates receiving THAT phone call, "I was just cut off by one of your drivers!" or "Your vehicle just passed me and the driver was driving recklessly!" You may have one vehicle that is 30 years old and rarely moves other than from job site to job site. You may have a fleet of 50 vehicles that are servicing customers pumps or delivering supplies and tools to all your rigs at multiple locations. Regardless of the number or type of vehicles, every time they are on the road, the vehicle is advertising for your company. What kind of advertising are your drivers doing? How do you know how to answer the complaint when it comes in?

December 18, 2017 is the mandatory implementation deadline for electronic logging devices (ELDs) in commercial vehicles, unless you qualify for one of the few exceptions. Attempts to stop the mandate have failed. It is time to start coming into compliance. Beyond complying with the ELD mandate, questions to ask the ELD provider is:

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Vendors everywhere are trying to get a corner of the market and get their devices installed. But are you maximizing your return on your investment?

As of mid-August, there are 98 registered devices. This is triple the number registered just two months ago. Over the next several months, the scramble will be on before vehicles are parked roadside in December for non-compliance. As you make the investment, take the time and find not only a supplier, but a partner who can make your job easier. Find an ELD that can help you manage your fleet that is out advertising you each and every day.

#### IGWA WELCOMES NEW CONTRIBUTOR AND ADVERTISER

For the last several years, Seth Uhlenkott has spoken at the IGWA annual convention. He left his job with the Idaho State Police and started a consulting business to help companies in many areas of compliance. From driver training and ELD's to self-auditing and building customized safety management programs, Safety & Compliance Solutions can help you to stay safe and compliant.



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#### Terry Morse Chosen as New CEO of NGWA



Terry Morse has been selected as the incoming chief executive officer of the National Ground Water Association. He is the successor to Kevin McCray, CAE, who, after 22 years as CEO and 35 years in the groundwater industry, is retiring **December 31, 2017.** 

"Terry brings experience and skills necessary as NGWA moves forward in dealing with the ever-changing business climates of our membership, as well as the Association itself," says David Henrich, CWD/PI, CVCLD, the incoming board president and a member of the search task group.

"NGWA looks forward to Terry joining our staff team this November as he works closely with Kevin during the final weeks of 2107," adds Board President Todd Hunter, CWD/PI. "Kevin helped NGWA tremendously by giving us ample lead time for an orderly and thoughtful transition."

Morse was selected from a field of 53 applicants, and is an association management veteran with a strong background in sales and marketing. Most recently, Morse has been a regional vice president for sales and marketing at RT Specialty LLC.

This followed several years with the Ohio Independent Insurance Association, as well as at the National Federation of Independent Business, and the Gibson Foundation where he was the lead officer of the subsidiary of Gibson Guitar Corp.

"My personal life experiences," Morse says, "coupled with my professional education, training, and knowledge, have made me cognizant of how important the need is to protect our groundwater system through advocacy, education, public awareness, and professional training. The opportunity to join with others who share the same mission, vision, and values will be the pinnacle and most rewarding chapter of my professional career."

The CEO search task group was led by Jeffrey Williams, MGWC, CVCLD, and the immediate past president of the NGWA Board of Directors. Joining him in the effort were representatives from all NGWA membership sections, including Hunter and Henrich, as well as Paul Eberhardt, Ronnie Hensley, and Scott King, PG.

The search was facilitated by Nancy Rummel, CAE, herself an association management veteran, who owns a consulting business serving both nonprofit and for-profit clients.

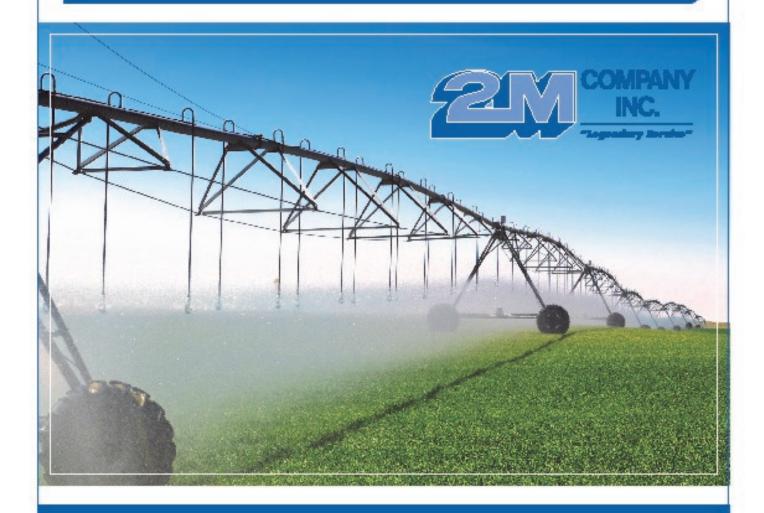
"NGWA is fortunate to have had an excellent field of candidates to consider and interview," Williams says. "I couldn't be more proud to work with such a group of thoughtful and engaged individuals during this most important task, and with her experience, Ms. Rummel brought a wealth of information and guidance to the process."

Morse, a central Ohio resident, holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Ohio State University and a master's degree in business administration in brand marketing from the University of Liverpool (England).

Since the Association's founding in 1948, it has had only four full-time chief executives. Jay H. Lehr, Ph.D., served from 1966 to 1991, David Schmitt from 1991 to 1995, and McCray from 1995 to 2017.

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## IDWR IMPLEMENTS GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2017-06

Contributed by Thomas Neace, P.G., Manager Ground Water Protection Section

In June 2017 the Idaho Governor's Office issued an executive order regarding professional licenses in Idaho. The Order (EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2017-06) concerns the review of all state occupational licenses which includes the licensing of drillers and operators by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. The Executive Order aims to evaluate the licensing process and requirements related to occupational licenses in Idaho. There has not been a comprehensive analysis in Idaho, regarding the effect of existing licensing requirements for various occupations and professions. Many licenses were established to ensure public protection regarding a particular trade or occupation. The Governor's Office has determined that an evaluation of licensing is necessary to ensure that licensing laws and rules do not create unnecessary barriers to commerce and employment.

The Executive Order requires all agencies to review their respective licensing procedures including:

- Timeframe for approving or denying a complete application
- Requirements that are prerequisites for the licensee
- License renewal process
- Statutory or regulatory prohibitions that require the department to deny a license
- Statutory or regulatory authority for the suspension of a license
- Cost of administering the licensing process on a per applicant basis
- Fees charged to applicant for issuance of a license
- Laws and rule changes enacted in the past five years to eliminate barriers.

The Executive Order requires each Department that issues licenses to provide an assessment as to:

- Whether the licensure or requirements are in the public interest
- Provide recommendations for improvement, modification or elimination of licensure
- requirements
- Adopt a process or procedure affording interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit to the State views, opinions or arguments regarding licensing and the licensing process.

The Department of Water Resources sent a letter to each driller and operator in the State of Idaho on June 19, 2017, regarding the Executive Order and the Idaho Driller Licensing Program. The letter provided a copy of the Executive Order and outlined the process for submitting views, opinions or concerns about the Idaho Driller Licensing Program.

The Department will present and discuss the current Driller Licensing Rules and other licensing requirements at the IGWA annual conference and regional workshops in 2017 and 2018. Comments and concerns about the Idaho Driller Licensing Program will be requested at each event. Submissions to the Department from interested persons regarding the Well Driller Licensing Rules and the licensing process will be accepted through May 1, 2018. Comments can be sent to:

Idaho Department of Water Resources

OR thomas.neace@idwr.idaho.gov

ATTN: Thomas Neace, P.G., Manager Ground Water Protection Section P.O. Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720

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#### WHAT'S IN YOUR TOOL BOX?

So, today I want to talk a little about safety tools and what you have in your company's tool box. I think that the biggest resource you have is the fact that there are multiple groups of people working for you.

In case of an emergency, 911 is a wonderful tool. It not only can get the right person to the place that they are needed, it also should give you a measure of comfort knowing that they are there, even if they are not needed. So, today let's look at the 911 system that's in your tool box.

Like any other tool you need to know a little about the tool in order to use it properly. In most areas when a call comes into the dispatch system, they will ask you some simple questions: **Who?** 

#### What? Where? How? and How Many?

These might seem like pretty straight forward questions. But you would be surprised how difficult they might be to some people.

First, have you discussed with your employees who to call in an emergency? Are they to call you first to see if they really need to call an ambulance? (Now I want to tell you, I am asking these questions to get you to think how you want your company's safety protocols to be. I do not intend to tell you how to run your world. Just remember that you might have to explain your thoughts behind the rules you put in place to someone someday.)

A call to 911 should start a movement to the accident site of two or more, different agencies. And that is ok. By definition a call to 911 is an emergency.

continued on page 19



#### NEWS FEATURE

OSHA launches application to electronically submit injury and illness data on August 1

**WASHINGTON** – The Occupational Safety and Health Administration will launch on Aug. 1, 2017, the Injury Tracking Application (ITA). The Web-based form allows employers to electronically submit required injury and illness data from their completed 2016 OSHA Form 300A. The application will be accessible from the ITA webpage.

Last month, OSHA published a notice of proposed rule-making to extend the deadline for submitting 2016 Form 300A to Dec. 1, 2017, to allow affected entities sufficient time to familiarize themselves with the electronic reporting system, and to provide the new administration an opportunity to review the new electronic reporting requirements prior to their implementation.

The data submission process involves four steps: (1) Creating an establishment; (2) adding 300A summary data; (3) submitting data to OSHA; and (4) reviewing the confirmation email. The secure website offers three options for data submission. One option will enable users to manually enter data into a web form. Another option will give users the ability to upload a CSV file to process single or multiple establishments at the same time. A third option will allow users of automated record-keeping systems to transmit data electronically via an application programming interface.

The ITA webpage also includes information on reporting requirements, a list of frequently asked questions and a link to request assistance with completing the form.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

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## WORKING IN HOT WEATHER



#### Am I in danger?

OSHA says that each year, thousands of workers get sick from heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Some even die.

#### You are at risk if you:

- Work in hot and humid conditions:
- Do heavy physical labor; and
- Don't drink enough water.

This risk is greater for workers who are not used to the heat.

#### But you can protect yourself

and feel better as you work by dressing for hot conditions and taking frequent breaks for water and shade.



#### What to look for ...

#### Signs of Heat Exhaustion:

- Weakness and wet skin
- Headache, dizziness or fainting
- Nausea or vomiting

#### Signs of Heat Stroke:

- Confusion or fainting
- May stop sweating dry, hot skin
- Convulsions or seizures

Get help if you or a co-worker has these signs.

HEAT STROKE IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY.

IT CAN BE DEADLY. If a co-worker shows signs of heat stroke, call 911.





If you think you are in danger:
Contact your supervisor.
Contact your supervisor.
Call OSHA
1-800-321-0SHA

#### Protect yourself ...



#### Dress for hot conditions

Wear clothes that are:

- Light-colored (white, etc.)
- Loose-fitting
- Lightweight

Wearing heavy protective clothing or personal protective

equipment may increase your risk you may need more frequent breaks for rest and water.



#### Drink Water

Drink water every 15 minutes when working in hot conditions.

DO NOT wait until you are thirsty to drink water.

DO NOT drink alcohol and AVOID caffeine.



#### Take Breaks

Take frequent rest breaks in shaded, cooled or air-conditioned areas.

If you see a co-worker with symptoms of **Heat Exhaustion**, speak up.

If you see a co-worker with symptoms of **Heat Stroke**, seek medical attention immediately!

#### Your employer should:

- Have a heat illness prevention program and emergency plan.
- Provide training on heat hazards and steps to prevent heat-related illnesses.
- Provide clean, cool water about 4 cups (that's two 16-ounce bottles) each hour.
- Schedule frequent breaks in shaded or cooled areas.
- Gradually increase workloads for workers new to the heat.

Learn more about heat-related illnesses and how to prevent them at

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#### IDAHO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION SELECTS NEW CHAIRMAN

(BOISE) – August 17, 2017 The Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission chose **Kevin Dickey** of Emmett to be its chairman today during the commission's first meeting since being restructured earlier this year.

The commission selected Payette County Commissioner Marc Shigeta as vice chairman.

Dickey is a Gem County Landowner with more than 30 years of oil and gas operations experience. He most recently worked for Boise-based Petroglyph Energy. He holds a bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering from the Colorado School of Mines.

Shigeta has been a Payette County commissioner since 2002. He is a third-generation resident of Payette County and a self-employed row crop farmer in New Plymouth. Shigeta graduated from New Plymouth High School and the University of Idaho with a bachelor's degree in business and accounting.

Other commissioners include Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) Director Tom Schultz, Dr. Renee Breedlovestrout of Moscow, and James Classen of Boise.

Today was the first meeting of the commission since House Bill 301 as amended was signed into law earlier this year, establishing a five-member commission made up of the IDL director, a county commissioner from a county producing oil and gas, and three subject-matter experts with college degrees in geosciences or engineering and at least ten years of experience in the oil and gas industry. The commission initially was made up of five individuals – two landowners (one with mineral rights and one without) and experts in water, geology, an oil and gas. The changes took effect July 1.

#### COMMUNITY MILESTONES

#### IGWA WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE THE 2017-2018 E-NEWSLETTER ADVERTISERS:

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We appreciate the vendors and M&S members who support this and other IGWA projects.

**ATTENTION VENDORS:** IGWA is now accepting **sponsors** for its **2017-2018 CEC WORK-SHOPS on** November 3, 2017 - Coeur d'Alene; March 9, 2018 - Pocatello, March 23, 2018 - Nampa and April 27, 2018 - Lewiston. Sponsorship helps reduce the continuing education costs to well drilling participants. Sponsorship benefits include being featured on our Save the Date Promotional Flyer, Workshop Agendas, IGWA's Website, Display Boards, Announcements, Lunch presentations. Based on past attendance, 30 to 50 participants are expected at each event. Limited Sponsorship available @ \$350. Please call our office at (208) 381-0294 for more information.



**Scott Weaver, Norco, Inc.** has accepted a new position in Salt Lake City as the lead technical sales representative and training coordinator at Norco's new advanced welding, automation technology and training center. Scott has asked us to extend his thanks and appreciation to all the members whom he will miss!

Ron Silva is Scott's replacement in the Boise area. Ron is a 20-year Norco veteran with experience in sales and management. Ron will be doing a training session at the convention in January.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality recently announced that its application to assume primacy over EPA Region 10's NPDES program in Idaho was approved. EPA has scheduled public hearings in Idaho for the week of September 11-15 and will accept public comment through October 10.

## 2017 Groundwater Foundation NATIONAL CONFERENCE Leading the Way: People, Policies, and Practices to Protect and Conserve Groundwater October 24-26 Grove Hotel, Boise, ID

Early bird registration rates available through September 1, 2017 at www.groundwater.org/conference or by phone at 1-800-858-4844

The Groundwater Foundation connects people, businesses, and communities through local groundwater education and action, making us all part of the solution for clean, sustainable groundwater.

**August is National Water Quality Month**. The Groundwater Foundation suggests 8 ways you can impact water quality. *1. Don't flush medications down your toilet or sink 2. Don't hose off the driveway; sweep it instead. The chemicals from your driveway run into the storm drains and flow directly into lakes and streams. <i>3. Pick up the poop. 4. Watch out for litter. 5. Follow instructions when using any chemicals. 6. Stay phosphate-free by using nontoxic household products. 7. Join a cleanup project that works on water. 8. Educate yourself on what's actually in your water, the quality of your water, and how it can be further improved.* 

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#### WHAT'S IN YOUR TOOL BOX

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**Who?** This seems easy enough. They need to tell the dispatcher their name. They need to know who is placing the call and on whose behalf.

What? What is the emergency? This gives them the ability to call the people that they deem necessary for what they are hearing in the call. In our area, the dispatcher will give this information to a medical trained person, who then will tell them if more help is requested. For example: If I get a call that a piece of pipe has fallen onto a victim and that he is unconscious, I will have them dispatch Life Flight to that location. If there was an accident that occurred in a fight or another type of altercation, I will request Law Enforcement to get there as soon as possible.

Where? Now you might think that this is an easy question to answer. Sometimes it is; sometimes not so much. The 911 system is progressing rapidly in the state of Idaho. But there are still areas that have difficulties. I have had cell calls bounce off a tower in a neighboring county. This meant that the caller's location could not be identified. They did not know where they were and so we sent people out in every direction in hope that someone would stumble upon them. In the elementary school classes that I teach, I tell the child to have their parents write down their address and place it on the refrigerator so that they could read it to someone in case of an emergency. You do the same thing. Have the address and even the coordinates written down. You generally have to have these for your well permit anyway. Just make a common spot at every worksite, where your employees will know the information will be.

How? and How Many? You know the reasons for this. We would need to know how many people are involved, so we can send the correct amount of responders. Generally, we only like to have one hurt person in an ambulance. This means that that person will get the total, undivided attention of the emergency personnel. We might need to adapt to each situation, but if it was you or your child, this is what you would want. Also how it happened is really important. If the accident was caused by an unsafe work site, or because of the accident the job site is now unsafe, we need to know that. I personally have responded to an accident like this. I was in the thick of things for about an hour, by myself, before the police would allow anyone else to enter the accident site. A very long hour!!!

To wrap this up, tell your employees to stay calm. It is important to take deep breaths and try not to get excited. I know, I know, don't get excited in an emergency? Well, I have been told since I was a kid that if I was prepared, I would not have to fear. This is all good advice, but sometimes hard to implement. Just remember that your employees see you and they will act from your example. Practice making 911 calls. Practice how to get GPS coordinates from their phones. Do drill on how to find safety equipment in the vehicles they drive. All this could make a difference between a toy and a tool in you safety tool box.

Stay safe my friends,

Mike

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