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Safety Solutions

Congratulations to T BAILEY, INC. for earning Evergreen Safety Council's John D. Spellman Safety Award for 2016

By Tom Odegaard, President/Executive Director ESC

Founded in 1991 and located in Anacortes, WA, T BAILEY, INC. is a diversified heavy-civil/industrial general contractor. Their expertise is construction. They build and repair huge storage tanks, apply coatings, build foundations, excavations, and piping systems. They are also experts in heavy steel plate/structural fabrication. Their vast experience in aboveground, field-erected fuel and water tank projects has established T BAILEY, INC. as one of the Northwest leaders in safety, quality control, and project management.

In 2015, T BAILEY, INC. cut their number of injuries in half, and reduced the number of injuries in field operations by 60%. They received the *Steel Tank Institute Safety Award of Achievement* for the fourth year in a row. They also received the *Blueprint Award of Excellence* from the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) for achieving the lowest Experience Modification Rating possible for a company of their size. L&I showed that this also saved the company more than \$250,000 per year in Worker's Comp premiums, and put hundreds of dollars more in every worker's paycheck.

In 2016, T BAILEY, INC. workers again reduced their number of injuries by 67% from the previous year. They received an Award of Excellence from the Steel Tank Institute, and another from Washington L&I, for going more than 365 days with no OSHA recordable injuries.

T BAILEY, INC.'s robust and dynamic safety program starts with full commitment from all workers, from their Owner and CEO to their newest employee. All employees worked very hard to change the safety culture of the company. Their consistent efforts have resulted in fewer accidents and injuries, and a considerable reduction in their experience factor rating. They have networked with other companies, and developed best practices for safety that they have found to be most effective in their line of work. They share their successes, and mentor their neighbors.

Their safety program includes safety and health training for all workers, knowledge assessment testing, periodic inspections, safety audits, and annual recertification. Many of their workers also received Safety Leadership Training in 2016. With their safety committee, they investigate all safety incidents, and then develop a corrective action plan. Their workers were trained to perform a Job Hazard Analysis on all major job functions, and develop posted Standard Operating Procedures from each JHA. Finally, they reward high levels of safety participation by individuals and teams and celebrate success proudly and often.

ESC will present the 11th annual John D Spellman Safety award to the leadership and employees of T BAILEY, INC. on July 12 in Anacortes.

The annual John D. Spellman Safety Award was created in 2006 to recognize ESC member organizations and individuals that have demonstrated outstanding safety achievements or have shown they are actively pursuing and reinforcing a positive safety culture in their workplace. The award also recognizes one of Washington's great public servants, Governor John D. Spellman. King County's first elected County Executive and Washington's 18th Governor. Currently serving as Chairman Emeritus, he served as President/Executive Director during ESC's critical restructuring in 1989 and served as Chairman of the Board from 1998 to 2016.



T BAILEY, INC.'s 2014 STI/SPFA Tank of the Year Award for the Angel of the Winds project.



DID YOU KNOW?

Each year in the US, more than 330,000 accidents caused by texting while driving lead to severe injuries. This means that over 78% of all distracted drivers are distracted because they have been texting while driving. 1 out of 4 car crashes in the US are caused by texting while driving.

Develop Your Defensible Space

By Eric Tofte, Director of Training ESC

Wildland-Urban Interface, an interesting term that means where the homes meet the forest (wildland). It is this area that can become dangerous during the summer months, when there is a high threat of wildfire. This year the threat is higher due to the wet winter and the larger than normal amount of grasses and other fine fire fuels in the forest.



This year the threat may also be high in the Western Washington area, in addition to the already dry Eastern Washington area.

So what can you do? The basic step is called developing a defensible space around your home or workplace. Things like using the zone concept of limiting the amount of flammable vegetation and materials surrounding the building and increasing the moisture content of remaining vegetation. The building itself and everything around it up to 100 – 200 feet is known as the ‘home ignition zone.’ In areas across the country where the risk of wildfire is high, the home ignition zone extends up to 200 feet beyond the actual home structure.

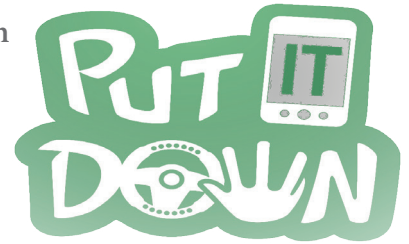
There is not enough space in this article to cover all that should be done, but there are several websites that can help you. One that I worked with in Chelan County is www.firewise.org where you can learn more about the zone concept under the Wildfire Preparedness tab.

If you live in an area that could be threatened by wildfire take a moment to check out the information and start developing your defensible space. You can't wait until the last minute on this one. In Washington, fatalities from distracted driving

Tougher Distracted Driving Starts July 23

By Tom Odegaard, President/Executive Director ESC

increased 32 percent from 2014 to 2015, and studies revealed that 71 percent of distracted drivers are engaging in the most dangerous distraction, using their cell phones behind the wheel.



Beginning July 23, 2017, a person who uses a personal electronic device while driving a motor vehicle on a public highway is guilty of a traffic infraction.

The first violation of the infraction carries a base penalty of \$48 and a total penalty of \$136. Second and subsequent violations of this infraction double.

What does this mean for you and I?

Holding a personal electronic device in either hand; using your hand or finger to compose, send, read, view, access, browse, transmit, save, or retrieve email, text messages, instant messages, photographs, or other electronic data; and watching video on a personal electronic device is an infraction of the law and you can be cited. However, the minimal use of a finger to activate, deactivate, or initiate a function of a device is not precluded. Using a hands free device is also allowed.

What is a personal electronic device? Any portable electronic device that is capable of wireless communication or electronic data retrieval.

“Driving” means operating a motor vehicle on a public highway, and includes when the vehicle is temporarily stopped because of traffic or a stop light or stop sign. It does not include when the vehicle has pulled over and stopped on the side of an active roadway and can remain stationary safely.

“Dangerously distracted driving”: A second part of this revision addresses a traffic infraction referred to as “dangerously distracted driving”. Dangerously distracted means a person who engages in any activity not related to the actual operation of a motor vehicle in a manner that interferes with the safe operation of such motor vehicle on any highway. This new infraction may only be enforced as a secondary action when the driver has been detained for a suspected violation of a separate traffic infraction. The base penalty for the infraction is \$30, with a total penalty of approximately \$100.

Be prepared, be safe...put the phone down.

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www.esc.org/PSSC

SAFETY STATISTICS

Of the 527 work zone fatal crashes in 2013, **41% were rear-end collisions** (compared to 16% of all fatal crashes). **Rear-end collisions are the most common type of work zone crash.**

41%

Summertime is the Busy Roadway Work Zones Season Work Zone Safety for Drivers

By Eric Tofte, Director of Training ESC

Summer has arrived and as usual so has the road construction season. With all the projects going on you are going to be driving through quite a few work zones this summer.

A few facts from the Federal Highway Administration:

- Between 2010 and 2014 in work zone crashes more than:
 - 4,400 persons died (85% were the driver or passenger),
 - 200,000 persons were injured.
- Drivers are the most frequent fatality in work zone crashes.
- Most work zone fatalities involve working-age adults.
- Rear-end crashes (running into the rear of a slowing or stopping vehicle) are the most common type of work zone crash.
- Fatal work zone crashes occur most often in summer and fall.
- The majority of fatal work zone crashes occurred on roads with speed limits greater than 50 mph.
- Stopping distance for motor vehicles at 50 mph:
 - Dry roadway~300 ft
 - Wet roadway~400 ft
 - Icy pavement~1250 ft
- A loaded 80,000 lb. tractor-trailer requires almost 50% more stopping distance.
- It takes only an extra 25 seconds to cover 1 mile at 45 mph compared to 65 mph.

As you are driving, what can you do to keep yourself safe as you drive through a work zone? According to the Federal Highway Administration you should:

Stay Alert and Minimize Distractions

- Dedicate your full attention to the roadway
- Avoid changing the radio station, using a mobile phone, eating, or other distractions that can remove your concentration from the road



Keep Your Headlights On

Pay Attention to the Road

- “Listen to the signs”
- Watch brake lights on vehicles ahead
- Watch traffic around you and be prepared to react

Merge into the Proper Lane

- Merge well before you reach the lane closure
- Be aware that traffic patterns can change daily

Don't tailgate

- Follow other vehicles at a safe distance

Obey the Posted Speed Limit

- Workers may be present just feet away
- Fines may be doubled for moving traffic violations
- Be prepared to slow down further if conditions indicate the need

Change Lanes Safely

- Change lanes only where pavement markings indicate, and only when traffic conditions permit

Follow Instructions from Flaggers

Expect the Unexpected

- Workers, work vehicles, or equipment may enter your lane without warning
- Other vehicles may slow, stop, or change lanes unexpectedly

Be Patient

Enjoy your summer and everyone **STAY SAFE.**



New Zipper Merge sign you may see in use around the country. Merge like a zipper - get it?

