



On The Level - July 2016



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[Strengthening jobsite safety climate by using and improving leading indicators](#)
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Congratulations To This Year's Roster Contest Winners!

Thank you to everyone who submitted their updated rosters for a chance to win one of three Amazon.com gift cards! Congratulations to our winners: Kimm Wheeler from RR Donnelley in Crawfordsville, IN, Alan Drew Owen from Flint Hills in Port Arthur, TX and Michael E. Wright from Huber Engineered Woods, LLC in Easton, ME!

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ONLINE DEGREES IN SAFETY & HEALTH

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Gotta Catch 'Em All!

Have you seen groups of people walking around with their eyes glued to their phones? Heard the headlines? Been playing the game yourself? Millions of people around the

world are playing the location-based, augmented reality game, Pokemon Go! While the game is centered on fun, there are also safety issues that need to be addressed.

Here are some tips for staying safe while catching Pokemon:

- **Be aware of your surroundings.** Don't go anywhere you wouldn't normally feel safe going and keep an eye on your belongings.
- **Stay alert.** People have reportedly been walking in front of cars and off of cliffs without looking up from their phones! It's not necessary to constantly watch the screen.
- **Don't walk alone.** The location-based aspect of the game allows for people to anticipate the location of other players. Thieves have been using this feature to track victims in secluded areas and determine if they were alone.
- **Don't drive or bike while playing.** Similar to texting and driving, playing Pokemon can wait until you have parked. A man in Oregon crashed his car into a tree playing the game.
- **Be respectful.** Some places have been requesting that you not hunt Pokemon in their locations such as the National Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. or Arlington Cemetery in Arlington, VA.

Stay safe and happy hunting!

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OSHA Fines on the Rise

In 2015, Congress passed the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act to advance the effectiveness of civil monetary penalties and to maintain their precautionary effect. According to OSHA, the new law directs agencies to adjust their penalties for inflation each year using a much more straightforward method than previously available. The act also requires agencies to publish "catch up" rules this summer to make up for lost time since the last adjustments. The new rules go into effect on August 1, 2016. Read more about this new law and how the increased fines will affect violators [here](#), in today's new [blog](#) post!

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Grilling Safety Tips

Fun summer grilling with family and friends is a popular activity during the warmer months. Stay safe this season with these helpful tips!

- **Always grill outdoors.** Never use a grill in a garage, vehicle, tent or any enclosed space (even if ventilated) due to risk of harmful carbon monoxide buildup.
- **Choose a safe location.** Only grill on a level surface and at a good distance from your house (about 10 feet).
- **Remember to clean up.** No one likes post-meal cleaning, but it is a safety necessity. Remove grease or fat buildup from the trays below the grill, and if you grill with charcoal and need to dispose of the coals, soak them in water to extinguish them before disposing in a metal container. Finally, cover the grill tightly and close the vents, this should extinguish the coals and whatever is left will be ready for next time.

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Write for *The Leader* - Personal Protective Equipment

The fall issue of *The Leader* will focus on personal protective equipment (PPE). If you or a colleague can provide an article that discusses the importance of PPE, new advances in the industry or a variety of other aspects regarding PPE, we want to hear from you! Contact the Communications Department by August 9, at communications@vpppa.org. Articles will be due for consideration on August 26.

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