

# ON THE LEVEL

BALANCING INDUSTRY & ASSOCIATION NEWS

On The Level - May 2020



VPPPA Members Receive a  
10% Tuition Discount



## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

[Membership Renewal](#)  
Now

[Take Our Membership Survey](#)

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## Safety & Health News Round-Up

[COVID-19 pandemic: Database of EPA-approved disinfectants available via app](#)  
(Safety+Health)

[As Memorial Day Approaches, Road Fatalities Increase Despite Stay-at-Home Orders](#)  
(EHS Today)

[10 actions every employer must take to ensure a safer reopening](#)  
(ISHN)

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Newsletter



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***VPPPA wishes you a happy and safe Memorial Day!***

## VPPPA Members Making A Difference

VPPPA members are the best of the best! Numerous member companies have stepped up during the COVID-19 pandemic. A few recent examples of their great work include:

- In partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy-Hanford Site, as well as other Hanford contractors and labor union partners, Mission Support Alliance is proud to take part in the Hanford Feeding Families Fundraiser to benefit their local food bank, Second Harvest

Inland Northwest. The Hanford organizers goal is to raise \$50,000! You can read more and learn how to participate, [here](#).

- Battelle and Idaho National Laboratory are working to decontaminate N95 respirators, allowing them to be used multiple times. [Click here](#) to read more about these amazing efforts.
- More than 40 employees volunteered to spend 28 days at the Braskem America plant in Marcus Hook, near Philadelphia, to make polypropylene - a raw material needed to make N95 masks, medical gowns and other protective gear. [Read the full story here](#).

Follow VPPPA on social media to stay up-to-date on all of the great work VPPPA members are doing during this pandemic (scroll to the bottom of this newsletter for social media buttons). [-Back to Top-](#)

## ANSI/ISEA Z308.1 Standard Survey

The cornerstone of any industry standard is to ensure that the document is meaningful and useful to the intended audience. This is even more important where worker safety is involved. We rely on your perspectives and experiences as safety leaders to shape standards that contribute healthy working environments.

ISEA and VPPPA are interested in hearing from you regarding the ANSI/ISEA Z308.1 standard on workplace first aid kits. We have developed a brief survey to gather end-user insights on key areas before the standard undergoes revision, and we hope that you will take a few moments to assist us. All participants will be entered to win a **\$50 Amazon gift card**.



### [Take the Survey](#)

*Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. We appreciate your participation.*

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## VPPPA Webinar Offerings

VPPPA members can access webinars on our website, at any time, for free! This month we offered two new webinars:

- [Mental Health and Working from Home](#)
- [OSHA Compliance, Enforcement and Best Practices in the COVID-19 Era](#).

Not a member? [Join VPPPA](#) to access hours of free content and be sure to stay tuned for future webinars, including:

### **Avoiding Incompatible Chemicals: Hazcom Tips for COVID-19 and After**

The ongoing global pandemic involving the novel coronavirus SARS CoV-2 that causes COVID-19 is creating an urgent need for disinfectant usage. However, the increased scale of disinfectant usage, coupled with the introduction of many new cleaning products to the workplace, creates new chemical management challenges. We need to keep up with our responsibilities under OSHA's HazCom Standard and avoid mixture of incompatible chemicals to avoid creating additional risks for our workers. Existing weaknesses in our chemical management practices can become more serious during times like these. Fortunately, better use of HazCom info such as Section 7 of SDSs can help us more safely manage all chemicals in our inventory during COVID-19 and beyond.

**Date & Time:** June 17, 12:00pm EST

**Presenter:** Phil Mole, Velocity EHS

**Cost:** FREE for VPPPA members / \$85 for non-members

# [Register](#)

## Mark your calendar for these webinars...

- July 8, 1:00pm EST - Fall Protection Program Management
- September 16, 1:00pm EST - Value & Needs for a Fall Protection Program
- November 4, 1:00pm EST - Fall Protection Best Practices & Lessons Learned

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## Behavioral Health Q&A Column - May 2020

VPPPA has partnered with experts at MindWise Innovations to present a monthly Q&A article addressing questions that members might be hesitant to ask about. These columns will address your questions about mental health, substance abuse, brain injuries, family issues and more. You can read the column for May, [here](#)



This month's article, "[Resilience through Relationships in COVID-19,](#)" covers the following questions:

- What is resilience?
- How can I become more resilient?
- How can I teach my kids to be resilient?
- What should I do if I think I need help coping with stress?

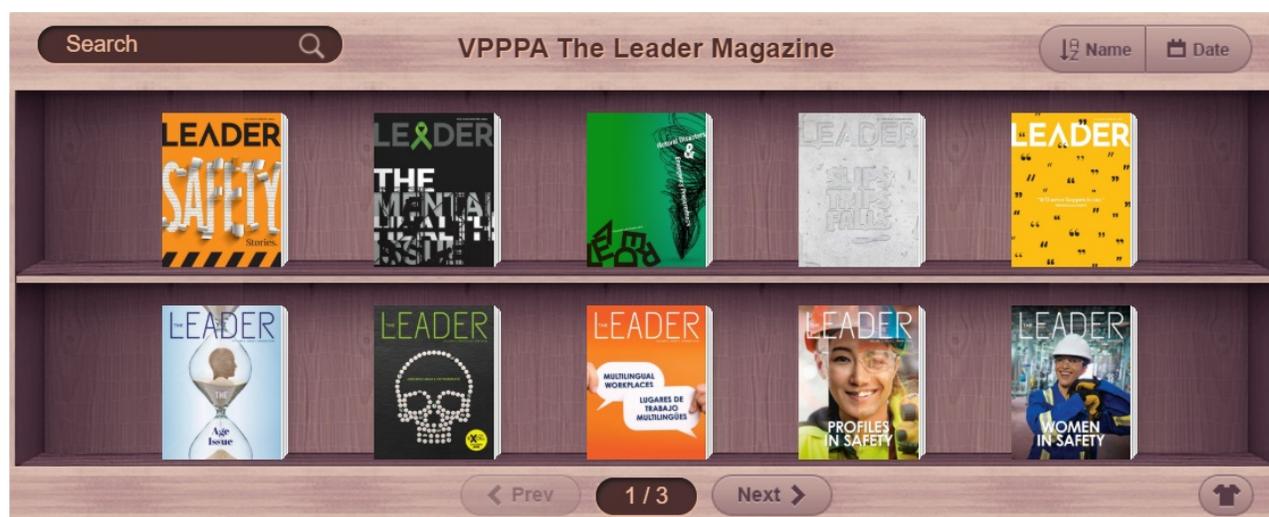
***To submit your own question (your information will not be shared) [fill out this form.](#)***

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## Read the Spring Issue of the *Leader* Magazine

The spring issue of the *Leader* magazine is now available online! VPPPA members can access all issues of the magazine on our website under the "**advancement**" tab.

[Click here to read the \*Leader\* magazine online](#)



Can't access the *Leader*? Reach out to our Membership Department at **(703) 761-1146** or [membership@vpppa.org](mailto:membership@vpppa.org).

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## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

One in five people will experience a mental illness during their lifetime. May has been observed as Mental Health Month since 1949 and aims to spread the word that mental health is something everyone should care about. You can find resources and learn more about mental health on [Mental Health America's website](#).



In addition, the [VPPPA Blog](#) now features a variety of mental health-related articles. Both VPPPA members and non-members can access all of these posts at any time, for free.

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## Recommended Safety & Health Podcasts

Searching for something to do while stuck in quarantine? Try out a new podcast!

[Keller and Heckman LLP](#) have released a variety of COVID-19 related safety and health podcasts/webinars. Ranging from managing coronavirus issues in construction, insurance safety and other law updates, you can stay updated on all things OSHA and COVID-19.

Our friend Blaine at the [SafetyPro Podcast](#) has also released multiple episodes highlighting COVID-19 safety discussions. A few recent editions of his show have included these relevant topics:

- COVID-19 - Masks Should Have No Valves
- COVID-19 - To Mask or Not?
- COVID-19 - To Clean or To Disinfect? Or Both?
- COVID-19 - Masks, Face Coverings

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## OSHA Updates Regarding COVID-19

The following is from the press release titled: [U.S. Department of Labor Adopts Revised Enforcement Policies For Coronavirus](#).

OSHA has adopted revised policies for enforcing OSHA's requirements with respect to coronavirus as economies reopen in states throughout the country. Throughout the course of the pandemic, understanding about the transmission and prevention of infection has improved. The government and the private sector have taken rapid and evolving measures to slow the virus's spread, protect employees, and adapt to new ways of doing business. Now, as states begin reopening their economies, OSHA has issued two revised enforcement policies to ensure employers are taking action to protect their employees.

First, OSHA is increasing in-person inspections at all types of workplaces. The new enforcement guidance reflects changing circumstances in which many non-critical businesses have begun to reopen in areas of lower community spread. The risk of transmission is lower in specific categories of workplaces, and personal protective equipment potentially needed for inspections

is more readily available. OSHA staff will continue to prioritize COVID-19 inspections, and will utilize all enforcement tools as OSHA has historically done.

Second, OSHA is revising its previous enforcement policy for recording cases of coronavirus. Under OSHA's recordkeeping requirements, coronavirus is a recordable illness, and employers are responsible for recording cases of the coronavirus, if the case:

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

[\*\*To read more, please visit OSHA's website.\*\*](#)

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## **Still Time to Submit Your Application**

### **Join the VPPPA National Board of Directors**

There is still time to submit your nominations for the VPPPA National Board of Directors. Joining the National Board of Directors is a great way to get more involved in the association.

This year there are several open positions, including:

- Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Director from a Site without a Collective Bargaining Agent
- Director from a VPP Contractor/Construction Site
- Director-at-Large (three positions available)

Each position has a term of two years, beginning in August of 2020 and terminating in 2022.

To read election requirements, duties of a board member, election protocols and find the nominations forms, [click here.](#)

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### **VPPPA Scholarships and Awards**

VPPPA's scholarships and awards are a great way to get involved in the association. Every year, VPPPA is proud to bestow three annual awards to member sites and individuals who go above and beyond in their efforts to improve safety and health for the workforce. VPPPA also provides four scholarships to VPPPA employees and their children who are pursuing degrees in the safety, health and environmental fields.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the VPPPA Annual Awards and Scholarships.

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## **Association Announcements**

### **Write for a VPPPA Publication**

Have you checked out the [VPPPA Blog?](#) Send us an article regarding any safety or health topic, and we will consider adding it to our blog schedule.

If you would like to write for a VPPPA publication, or know of someone who is interested, please email [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

### **Membership News**

If you have any news or pictures from your site that you would like to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.), please send it to [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We would love to add your updates to the next On The

Level newsletter or post it on our social media pages.

### **Member of the Month**

Make sure you visit the [Member of the Month](#) section on our website? If you would like to nominate someone as the VPPPA Member of the Month, please fill out our [nominations form](#) and email it to [membership@vpppa.org](mailto:membership@vpppa.org).

**The May Member of the Month is Aaron Eddlemon! You can read about Aaron, [here](#).**



Congratulations, Aaron!

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Stay Connected



**VPPPA**  
7600-E Leesburg Pike, Suite 100  
Falls Church, VA 22043

[www.vpppa.org](http://www.vpppa.org)  
(703) 761-1146

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[www.vpppa.org](http://www.vpppa.org) | Phone: (703) 761-1146 | Fax: (703) 761-1148 |  
7600-E Leesburg Pike, Suite 100  
Falls Church, VA 22043