

# Safety Bulletin

## Severe Weather Awareness Week

Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 3-7, 2014

Tornado Safety Drill: Tuesday March 4, 2014 at 1:30pm



### 2013 Kansas Tornado Facts

**Tornadoes: 56 Total in 2013**

(5 below the 1950-2013 average of 61)

(25 below the past 30 year average of 81)

(53 below the past 10 year average of 109)

**2013 Fatalities: 0**

**Injuries: 1**

**Longest track: 9.0 miles** (Lyon County, May 19, EF1)

**Strongest: EF4** (Pawnee County, May 18)

**Most in a county: 4** (Ellis, Kearny, Sumner Counties)

**Tornado days: 15** (Days with 1 or more tornadoes)

**Most in one day: 12** (May 19)

**Most in one month: 45** (May)

**First tornado of the year: April 7** (Russell County, 6:38 pm CST, EF0 0.48 mile length, 50 yard width)

**Last tornado of the year: August 13** (Lane County, 11:15am CDT, EF0 0.04 mile length, 25 yard width)

**Length of tornado season: 128 days** (Days between first and last tornado)

Source: Kansas Emergency Management Association

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
EF5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
EF4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1%
EF3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6%
EF2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6%
EF1	0	0	0	0	8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	10	27%
EF0	0	0	0	1	32	2	3	3	1	0	0	0	41	60%
Total	0	0	0	1	45	3	4	3	1	0	0	0	56	100%
Percent	0		0	2	80	5	7	5	1	0	0	0		

Violent (EF4—EF5) in red, Strong (EF2-EF3) in yellow, Weak (EF0-EF1) in green. Monthly totals in gray.  
(Monthly percent values do not add to 100% due to rounding)

### Lightning Safety

- Watch for developing thunderstorms and be ready to act when thunder is heard.
- Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles from an area where it is raining. That's about the distance you can hear thunder.

**If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance. Seek safe shelter IMMEDIATELY!**

- Outdoor Activities: Minimize the risk of being struck by moving indoors or to vehicles at the first roar of thunder.
- Inside Activities: Things to avoid : Corded phones, Computers, Other electrical equipment, Indoor/Outdoor pools, Tubs, showers, and other things connected to metal plumbing.

**Wait 30 minutes after the last roar of thunder before going outside again.**

- Help a Lightning Victim: Call 911 and get help immediately. You are in no danger when helping a lightning victim. The charge will not affect you.

**When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!**

Source: Kansas Emergency Management Association

# Eye Safety

There are more than 15,000 welding equipment-related eye injuries a year, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Power tools come in second, contributing to nearly 10,000 eye injuries a year. Wear the correct safety eyewear so YOU don't become a statistic!

Good vision is priceless! Luckily, 90% of all workplace eye injuries are preventable with the use of proper safety eyewear. Yet, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that workplace eye injuries cost over \$467 million a year. With indirect costs, such as legal fees, judgments and training new workers, the estimated total is more than \$934 million each year.

Nearly one million Americans have already lost some degree of sight due to an eye injury. With more than 700,000 work-related eye injuries happening each year, Americans can use a few tips on how to prevent eye injuries in the workplace.

Source: Prevent Blindness America

## 10 Ways to Prevent Occupational Eye Injuries

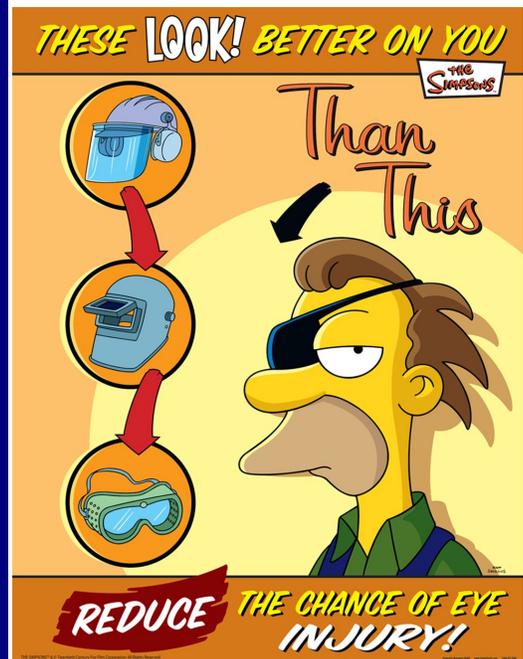
1. Look carefully at plant operations, work areas, access routes, and equipment. Study injury patterns to see where accidents are occurring.
2. Conduct regular vision testing, as uncorrected vision can cause accidents.
3. Select protective eyewear based on specific duties or hazards.
4. Establish a mandatory eye protection program in all operation areas.
5. Have eyewear fitted by a professional.
6. Establish first-aid procedures for eye injuries, and make eyewash stations available, especially where chemicals are in use.
7. Make eye safety part of your employee training and new hire orientation.
8. Make sure managers and executives set an example by wearing protective eyewear wherever it's worn by other employees.
9. Regularly review and revise your policies, and set a goal of zero eye injuries.
10. Display a copy of your policy where employees can see it.

Source: Safety BLR

## Major Eye Injury Facts

Product Category	Estimated Injuries
1. Power Tools (combined, including portable).....	16,519
2. Welding Equipment (not specified).....	13,492
3. Manual Tools (hammers, screwdrivers, sanders, etc.).....	7,997
4. Bleaches (non-cosmetic).....	4,145
5. Adhesives.....	3,968
6. Lawn Mowers, Not Specified.....	3,938
7. Lawn Trimmers or Edgers.....	3,684
8. Tools (not specified).....	3,582
9. Saws, Not Specified.....	2,707
10. Nails, Screws, Tacks or Bolts.....	2,563
11. Flooring, Wood Paneling and Particleboard.....	2,050
12. Paints, Varnishes, Shellacs and Removers.....	1,695
13. House Structures, Repair or Construction.....	1,494
14. Gasoline and Gasoline Cans.....	1,433
15. Chemicals (misc. and otherwise not classified).....	1,301

Source: Prevent Blindness America



Source: Safety Poster