

## SAFETY NEWSLETTER

SELF INSURED WORKER'S COMPENSATION FUND MEMBERS

April 2020

### Safety Facts, Home Safety and Michigan Fun Facts Month

Some people would say that the world has gone safety mad. Everywhere we turn there are massive warning signs or bright colored tape marking 'hazards'. Here are some safety facts that I bet you didn't know... .

- Every year, approximately 3 million employees are disabled at work. I must admit, when I was researching this post, this figure blew me away!
- That is 3 million people's lives that are changed in an unthinkable way each year. While foreign countries with poor safety cultures account for a large portion of this statistic, it reinforces our duty to educate the third-world on necessary precautions and processes.
- Fire kills more Americans each year than all natural disasters combined. Again, this shocked me! Fire in the home is totally preventable. If more people used fire alarms and were more sensible with cigarette butts, this statistic would be drastically reduced.
- Road traffic accidents costs countries around 4% of their Gross Natural Product each year! WOWSERS!!
- If you drive after being awake for 24 hours, your response times are impaired the equivalent of somebody just over the drink-driving limit. Furthermore, on only four hours sleep, a single beer will give a driver the same reaction time as a 6-pack of beer after a normal nights sleep. In reality, the drink driving limit does not measure what reaction times are safe. This purely measures a legal blood-alcohol level and does not take sleep and other factors into account. Just because you are under the legal limit, it does not necessarily mean that it's safe to drive. Sleep, health, concentration, age, drugs etc. all impact reaction times.



With COVID19 having most of us working from Home, Lets look at Safety Tips around our House.

- Don't neglect safety housekeeping:  
Safety housekeeping refers to keeping minor safety hazards at bay by maintaining basic safety practices. The following are good safety housekeeping measures. First things first, don't keep clutter in front of doors, stairways or steps and make sure all cords are out of areas of travel to avoid trips. Keep things where they can be comfortably reached, or use a ladder or step-stool to safely retrieve them, and keep drawers, cabinets and cupboards closed when not in use.
- Maintain adequate home security:  
Perhaps one of the biggest safety hazards that can accompany homeownership are potential security threats. These can be fires, floods, loss of power, invasion or worse. In order to avoid a potentially tragic occurrence, you should be sure to maintain adequate home security by having a security alarm and door locking system employed at your home.
- Always remember home fire safety  
Home fires can be extremely devastating if not life-threatening. While it's difficult to live comfortably and conveniently while having eliminated all fire threats, there are steps you can take to ensure that high-risk home items are eliminated of potential risk. Never leave cooking unattended and keep stoves and counter surfaces free of clutter, grease and especially flammable objects like hairspray, bug spray or air freshener.



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## Michigan Fun Facts and Trivia:

- Detroit is known as the car capital of the world.
- Alpena is the home of the world's largest cement plant.
- Rogers City boasts the world's largest limestone quarry.
- Elsie is the home of the world's largest registered Holstein dairy herd.
- Michigan is first in the United States production of peat and magnesium compounds and second in gypsum and iron ore.
- Colon is home to the world's largest manufacture of magic supplies.
- The state Capitol with its majestic dome was built in Lansing in 1879.
- Although Michigan is often called the "Wolverine State" there are no longer any wolverines in Michigan.
- Michigan ranks first in state boat registrations.
- The Packard Motor Car Company in Detroit manufactured the first air-conditioned car in 1939.
- The oldest county (based on date of incorporation) is Wayne in 1815.
- Sault Ste. Marie was founded by Father Jacques Marquette in 1668. It is the third oldest remaining settlement in the United States.
- In 1817 the University of Michigan was the first university established by any of the states. Originally named Catholepistemiun and located in Detroit the name was changed in 1821. The university moved to Ann Arbor in 1841.
- Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes and more than 36,000 miles of streams.
- In 1929, the Michigan State Police established the first state police radio system in the world.
- Michigan has 116 lighthouses and navigational lights.
- Four flags have flown over Michigan – French, English, Spanish and United States.



Ref: State of Michigan, NFPA,

- The city of Novi was named from its designation as Stagecoach Stop # 6 or No.VI.
- Michigan State University has the largest single campus student body of any Michigan university. It is the largest institution of higher learning in the state and one of the largest universities in the country.
- Michigan State University was founded in 1855 as the nation's first land-grant university and served as the prototype for 69 land-grant institutions later established under the Morrill Act of 1862. It was the first institution of higher learning in the nation to teach scientific agriculture.
- The largest village in Michigan is Caro.
- Michigan's state stone, The Petoskey is the official state stone. It is found along the shores of Lake Michigan.
- Vernors ginger ale was created in Detroit and became the first soda pop made in the United States. In 1862, pharmacist James Vernor was trying to create a new beverage when he was called away to serve our country in the Civil War. When he returned, 4 years later, the drink he had stored in an oak case had acquired a delicious gingery flavor.
- The Kellogg Company has made Battle Creek the Cereal Capital of the World. The Kellogg brothers accidentally discovered the process for producing flaked cereal products and sparked the beginning of the dry cereal industry.
- Michigan is the only place in the world with a floating post office. The J.W. Westcott II is the only boat in the world that delivers mail to ships while they are still underway. They have been operating for 125 years.
- Standing anywhere in the state a person is within 85 miles of one of the Great Lakes.