



## OSHA NATIONAL EMPHASIS PROGRAM ON OUTDOOR AND INDOOR HEAT-RELATED HAZARDS

The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) announced a [National Emphasis Program](#) (NEP) to ensure that employees in high-hazard industries are protected from heat hazards, which includes both scheduled and unscheduled inspections to evaluate heat hazards in the workplace.

### When Will Inspections Occur?

OSHA will conduct scheduled inspections during days of locally issued heat warnings or advisories of industries that are deemed to be high-risk for worker heat exposure.

OSHA will also conduct unscheduled inspections when hazardous heat conditions are recorded in the OSHA 300 logs or 301 Incident Reports, or where an employee reports a heat-related hazard to OSHA.

OSHA also has discretion to schedule follow-up inspections for facilities that were previously inspected because of a heat-related fatality and were issued citations.

### How Will Facilities Be Selected?

Facilities will be randomly selected from a master list of targeted establishments within the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

### What Facilities Will Be Inspected?

All companies that fall under NAICS code 3251 (Basic Chemical Manufacturing) are included in the list of entities eligible for planned inspection. Both indoor and outdoor facilities are included.

All companies regardless of NAICS code are eligible for unscheduled inspections (when hazardous heat conditions are recorded in the OSHA 300 logs or 301 Incident Reports, or where an employee reports a heat-related hazard to OSHA).

### What Will OSHA Do Prior to an Inspection?

In the case of a scheduled inspection, OSHA will notify the facility that they have been selected. Where possible, these inspections will be coordinated with other OSHA inspections.

Prior to opening the inspection, OSHA will search the establishment's citation history, accident history and fatality history to determine any prior heat-related issues. If applicable, this will include a review of the three prior years of OSHA 300 Logs and OSHA 301 Incident Reports.

## What Will OSHA Do During an Inspection?

- Review current OSHA 300 Logs and OSHA 301 Incident Reports for heat-related illness.
- Review any records of heat-related emergency room visits or ambulance transport (even when hospitalization did not occur).
- Interview workers for symptoms of heat-related illnesses (headache, dizziness, fainting, dehydration, etc.).
- Determine if the employer has an illness and injury program addressing heat exposure.
- Document conditions relevant to heat-related hazards, including the heat index, weather data and heat alerts from the National Weather Service.
- Identify activities relevant to heat-related hazards such as:
  - Potential sources of heat-related illnesses (such as working near a gas engine, furnace, boiler, or steam lines, working in direct sunlight, a hot vehicle, or areas with hot air)
  - Heavy or bulky clothing or equipment, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - Workload exertion levels that are moderate, heavy, or very heavy, considering both average and peak workload.
  - Any prolonged exposure during which a worker is continuously or repeatedly performing moderate to strenuous activities.

## What Will OSHA Look for In a Program to Address Heat Exposure?

- The program should be documented in writing.
- The program should document:
  - How the employer monitors temperature at the worksite.
  - How the employer monitors workload at the worksite.
- The program should provide employees with:
  - Unlimited cool water that is easily accessible.
  - Additional breaks for hydration, as needed.
  - Scheduled rest breaks and shaded area, as needed.
  - Time for acclimatization of new and returning workers.
  - A “buddy” system in place on hot days.
  - Administrative controls such, as earlier start times and employee rotation to limit heat exposures.
  - Training on heat illness signs and how to report signs and symptoms.
  - Basic training on first aid and how to contact emergency personnel, when needed.
  - Training on heat illness prevention and the importance of hydration.

## Where Can I Find Additional Information?

More information can be found in [OSHA’s National Emphasis Program Directive](#). More information on Heat Illness Prevention can be found on OSHA’s Heat Illness Prevention [Campaign Website](#).