BLUEGREEN ALLIANCE

CHECKLIST FOR A MODEL HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION RULE

Who is protected?

- ❑ Include all indoor and outdoor workers who are exposed to heat.
- ❑ Don't exempt sedentary workers, contractors, consultants, etc.
- ❑ Include emergency responders.

Temperature triggers for protection

- ❑ Identify science-based, protective heat and high heat thresholds that trigger protections.
  - Utilize wet bulb globe temperature (WBGT).
  - Factor in workload and personal protective equipment (PPE) worn.
- ❑ Identify method for informing workers of when heat protections have been triggered.

Heat Stress Prevention

- ❑ Require every workplace to have a heat stress prevention plan including worksites where air conditioning exists but may fail or malfunction.
- ❑ With workers and their representatives, identify all tasks and workers vulnerable to heat stress with a Heat Stress Task Hazard Analysis.
- ❑ Actively involve non-managerial employees and their representatives in the design, implementation and updating of the plan.
- ❑ Review and update the heat stress prevention plan annually or whenever a heat-related injury or illness occurs that results in death, days away from work, medical treatment beyond first aid, or loss of consciousness.
- ❑ Follow the hierarchy of controls: implement ventilation, air conditioning and other engineering controls first, next utilize administrative controls, and finally, provide PPE if the aforementioned controls are insufficient for cooling work areas.
- ❑ Include a "cool first, transport second" approach in the procedures for emergency response.

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High Heat Planning and Training:

- ❑ If temperatures are anticipated to be above trigger levels ensure that trained personnel are conducting daily assessments.
- ❑ Provide training to ALL workers (rather than just those who are more likely to experience high heat).
- ❑ Include definitions of heat exhaustion, heat stroke and rhabdomyolysis. List symptom recognition and response for each.
- ❑ Include training on heat risk factors such as pregnancy, pre-existing health conditions and current medications being taken.
- ❑ Make training available in all primary languages of employees and ensure comprehension by giving time for questions and answers.
- ❑ Ensure that trained heat safety coordinators are present on all shifts.
- ❑ Keep records on any heat injuries and illnesses sustained on the job.

Heat Threshold Triggers Protections

- ❑ Schedule paid cool down breaks in close proximity to the work area that are structured to not impact pay or piece rate.
- ❑ Ensure that cool, free, potable and accessible water and/or electrolyte drinks are provided by employer in close proximity to the work area.
- ❑ Provide accessible, cool rest areas (shaded or mechanically cooled to less than 82 degrees Fahrenheit WBGT) nearby that are large enough to protect all workers and are free from other hazards such as chemicals, fumes, etc.
- ❑ Provide heat-protective personal protective equipment such as hats, long sleeves, and cooling vests at no cost to workers.
- ❑ Prevent against retaliation, including for reporting a heat hazard.
- ❑ Employ acclimatization protocols for new or returning workers.

High Heat Threshold Triggers Additional Protections

When the high heat trigger is met or exceeded the following additional protection protocols should be followed. This means that the above heat protections are in place as well as those listed below when the high heat threshold has been met:

+ Assess the heat risk to determine the need for accommodations.
+ Ensure that a buddy system or another functioning communications system is available to any worker who may need help.
+ Postpone non-essential tasks to cooler parts of the day or week.

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