

Team Topics - November 2021



SERVICE EXCELLENCE - Quarterly MVPs

The following will be recognized at the November 4 City Council Meeting and have lunch with the City Manager the same day.

Kourtney Looper (WTP) & Brandon Roberts (ENG) - The Wellness Committee needed to make a presentation to City Council on the City's new insurance requirements. When the Committee members were asked, Kourtney and Brandon volunteered and did a marvelous job. Kourtney is a third shift employee at the WTP, and Brandon is a construction inspector

Larry Reeves (PW) - On the first night of the new 16U Henderson County Baseball Summer League, with seven teams representing all four high schools as well as homeschoolers, the lights at Berkeley Park mysteriously went out 5 minutes after being turned on. The teams kept playing but it was clear that it was going to get too dark to play before the game ended. Larry was contacted and went into action and contacted Duke Energy. He left his home and came to Berkeley. He waited 20 minutes for the Duke repairmen to arrive. This was around 8:15. He then stayed with the repairmen as they corrected the problem, got the lights back on and allowed the game to continue.

Dwayne Jones, Austin Jones, Brad Duncan & Tim Laughter (WS) - Patton Pool had to be shut down for an issue with the pump. The pump crew from Water & Sewer sprang into action to assist Public Works, stepped in to work on an issue that is not part of their typical duties. Because of their quick work the pool was shut down for less than 24 hours and the YMCA could resume with their pool activities.

COLD WEATHER HAZARDS



Many hazards in the workplace are controllable, but the weather is not one of them. Working in cold environments can have a significant impact on the safety of the worksite. The best way to deal with these issues is to prepare yourself.

How Cold Is It?

Chilly weather can feel much more intense than the thermometer indicates. Factors like humidity and wind chill significantly increase the risk of cold stress, even when temperatures appear moderate. For example, when the air temperature is 40°F, and wind speed is 35 mph, the wind chill temperature is 28°F. Always take environmental conditions into account when assessing hazards.

Preparing Against Cold Illnesses - Hypothermia and other cold-related illnesses can be subtle and set in fast.

- Wear insulated clothing like lots of lightweight layers which trap heat close to the body.
- Treat wind exposure like your enemy. Stay covered up to avoid exposed skin which results in heat loss.
- Avoid sweating. Try to wear a base layer that's moisture-wicking to keep sweat from making you colder. Work at a pace that doesn't cause too much perspiration.

Preventing Cold Illnesses - To prevent cold illnesses, make sure you do the following:

- Coordinate the tasks with the greatest cold hazards to be done at the warmest part of the day.
- Drink warm, sweet beverages to assist the body in warming itself.
- Monitor your own physical condition. Check in with your co-workers to be sure everyone is doing ok.
- Take short breaks in warm, dry areas to allow the body to warm up.
- Keep dry clothes available in case melting snow or rain cause your work clothes to become wet.

