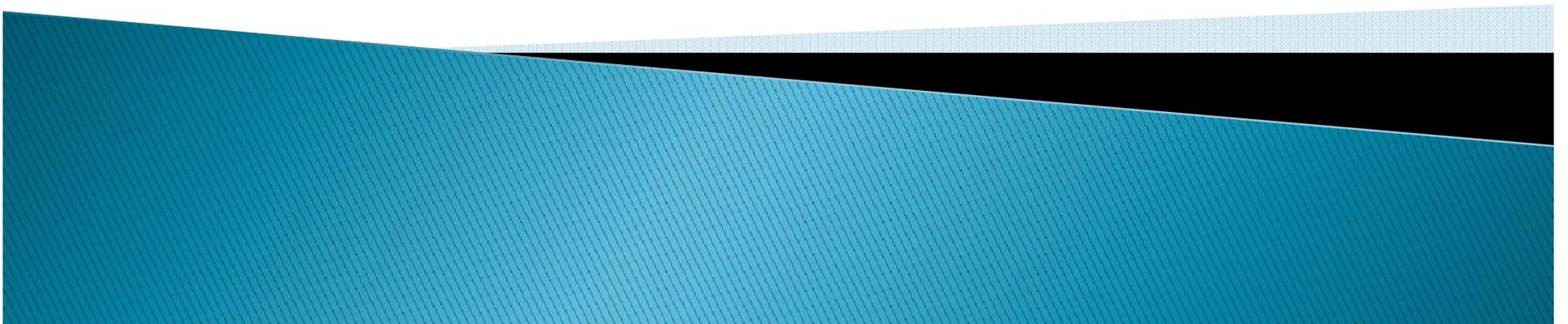


Continuing Education for
Connecticut Plumbers
Chapter 1 – OSHA



Who OSHA Covers

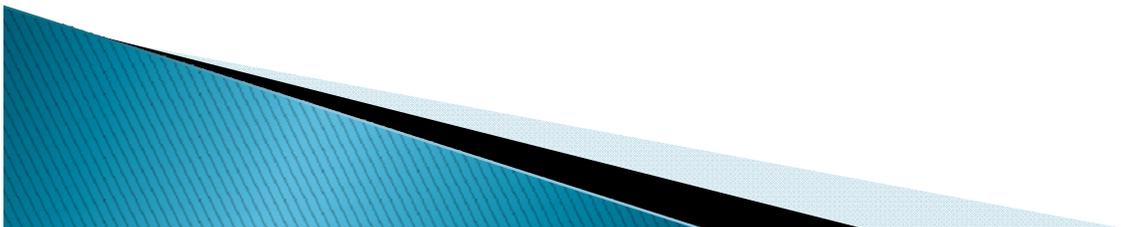
- ▶ Private Sector Workers
- ▶ State and Local Government Workers
- ▶ Federal Government Workers

Who is not covered by the OSH Act:

- ▶ Self employed
 - ▶ Immediate family members of farm employers that do not employ outside employees
 - ▶ Workers who are protected by another Federal agency, e.g. Mine Safety & Health Administration, Federal Aviation Administration or the US Coast Guard.
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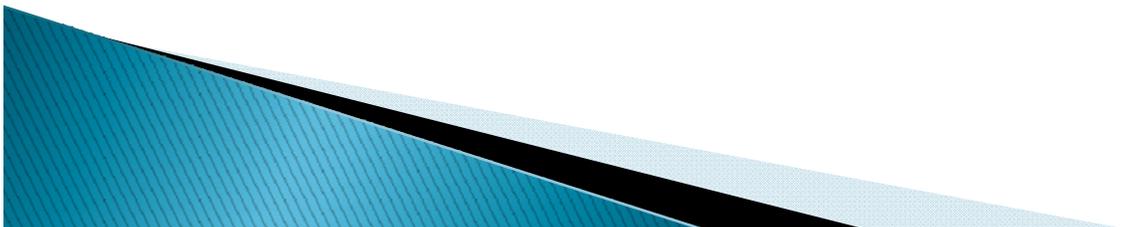
OSHA standards: *Protection on the Job*

- ▶ OSHA standards are rules that employers must use to protect their employees from hazards.
- ▶ There are OSHA standards for...
 - Construction
 - Agriculture
 - Maritime
 - General Industry



OSHA standards: *Protection on the Job*

- ▶ General Duty Clause
 - All employers must comply with this clause
 - Requires employers to keep their workplace free of serious recognized hazards.
 - Generally cited when no OSHA standard applies to the hazard.



Workers can ask OSHA to Inspect Their Workplace

- ▶ Workers or their representatives may file a complaint with OSHA and ask for a workplace inspection if they believe that their employer is not following OSHA standards.
- ▶ Anyone who files a complaint has the right to tell OSHA not to reveal their identity.
- ▶ It is a violation of the OSH Act for an employer to...
 - Fire
 - Demote
 - Transfer or
 - Discriminate in any wayAgainst any employee for filing a complaint

The OSHA Inspector & the Workers and Their Representatives

When the OSHA inspector arrives, workers and their representatives have the right to:

- ▶ Go alone on the inspection.
 - ▶ Talk privately with the OSHA inspector.
 - ▶ Take part in meetings with the inspector and the employer before and after the inspection is conducted.
 - ▶ Where there is no union or employee representation, the OSHA inspector must talk confidentially with a reasonable number of workers during the course of the investigation
- 

Violations

- ▶ Inspectors who find violations of the standard or serious hazards may issue citations and fines.
 - ▶ Citation includes
 - Methods employer must use to fix a problem
 - Date by which the corrective action must be done.
 - ▶ Workers only have the right to challenge the resolution deadline.
 - ▶ Employers have the right to challenge the deadline.
 - ▶ Workers or their representatives must notify OSHA if they want to be involved in the appeals process.
 - ▶ If you request an inspection, you have the right to find out the results and request a review if OSHA decides not to issue citations.
- 

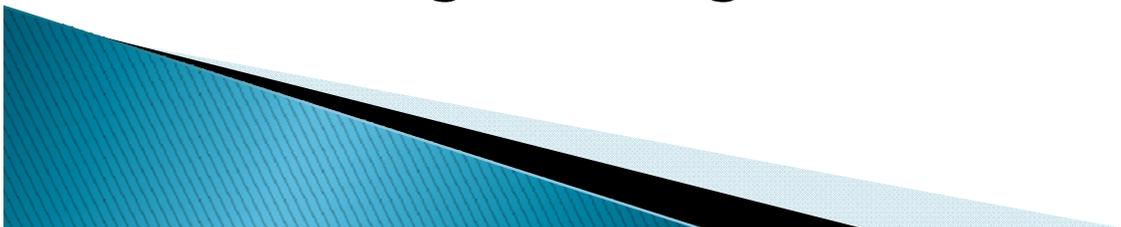
Employer Responsibilities

- ▶ Must provide a safe workplace free of serious hazards.
- ▶ Follow all relevant OSHA safety and health standards.
- ▶ Find and correct any safety and/or health problems.
- ▶ Reduce or eliminate problems through use of PPE.
- ▶ Switching to safer chemicals, improved ventilation, by trapping harmful fumes and disposing of them properly.



Employer Responsibilities

- ▶ Inform employees through training.
- ▶ Keep accurate records of work related injuries.
- ▶ Perform any and all testing of the workplace as required by the OSHA standard, such as air quality or noise levels.
- ▶ Provide hearing or other medical tests required by the standard.
- ▶ Post any OSHA citations, injury and illness data, where workers can see them.
- ▶ Notify OSHA within 8 hours of an employee death or when 3 or more employees go to a hospital.
- ▶ Not discriminate or retaliate against any worker for using their rights under the law.



You Cannot be Punished or Discriminated against for using your OSHA Rights

- ▶ As was discussed in slide #5, your employer cannot do anything to discriminate against you for filing a complaint with OSHA.
 - ▶ If you feel you have been discriminated against you must contact OSHA within 30 days of the alleged discrimination.
 - ▶ No form is required. You must either call or write a letter.
- 

What to do if there is a Dangerous Situation at Work

- ▶ Bring the condition to your employers attention if possible.
- ▶ You may file a complaint with OSHA.
- ▶ You must not leave the worksite simply because you filed a complaint.
- ▶ You have the right to refuse to work if...
 - The condition clearly presents a risk of death or physical harm.
 - There is no enough time for OSHA to inspect, and,
 - Where possible you have brought the condition to the attention of your employer.

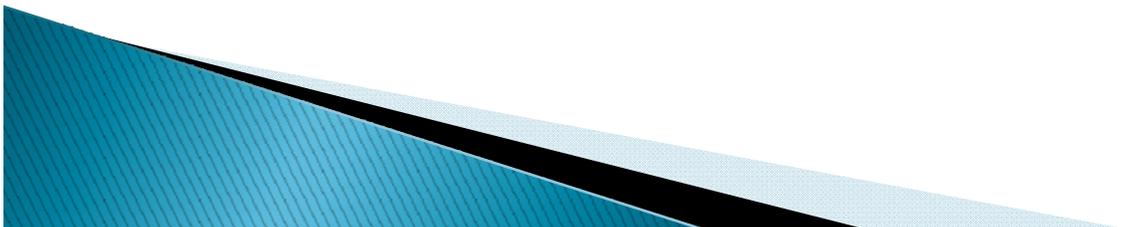


Additional Information for Workers

- ▶ Has my employer ever been inspected by OSHA?
 - ▶ What is the most common cited hazard in my industry?
Does OSHA provide technical information on hazards?
 - ▶ What materials does OSHA have of interest to workers?
 - ▶ By visiting and navigating through the www.osha.gov web site you will find answers to these questions as well as other additional resources.
- 

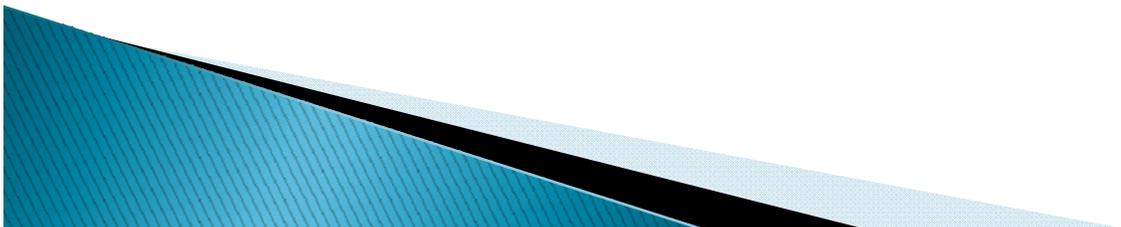
OSHA Approved State Programs

- ▶ There are 22 states or territories that have state run workplace and health agency's.
- ▶ Connecticut's agency is part of the Connecticut Department of Labor and is referred to as Conn-OSHA. It only covers public employees.



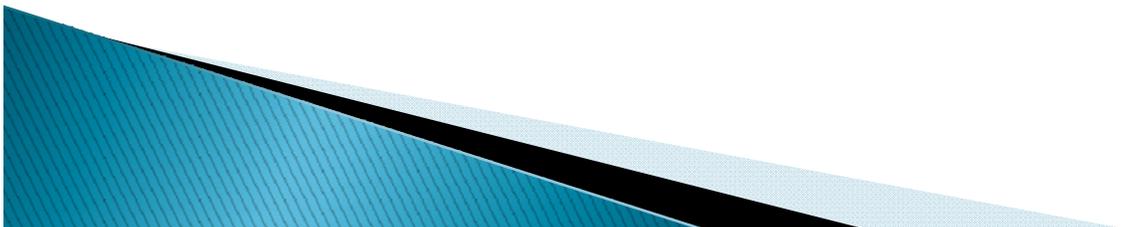
Connecticut Statute

- ▶ Connecticut's state legislature passed a statute in 2010 which requires any person working on a state funded construction project to have as a minimum an OSHA 10 hour card not more than 5-years old.
- ▶ If you do not currently have an OSHA card or if your card is five-years or older you can Google OSHA on-line training and take an on-line class.
- ▶ This class must be to the 29 CFR 1926 standard.



Most Common OSHA Citations for Fiscal Year 2009

1. Scaffolding—9,093
2. Fall Protection—6,771
3. Hazard Communication—6,378
4. Respiratory protection—3,803
5. Lockout/Tagout—3,321
6. Electrical (wiring)—3,079
7. Ladders—3,072
8. Power Industrial Trucks—2,993
9. Electrical—2,556
10. Machine Guarding—2,364



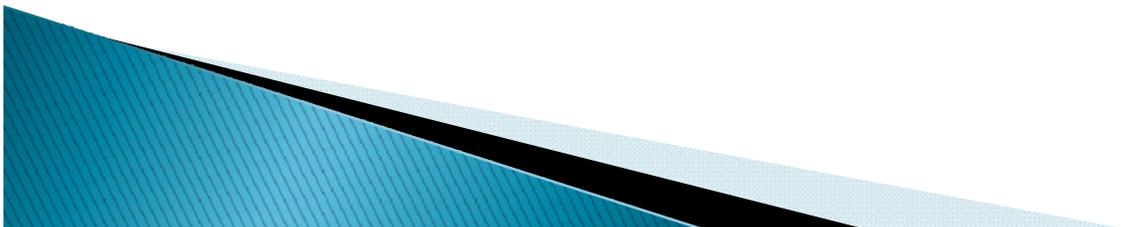
Subpart X—Stairways & Ladders

- ▶ OSHA’s subpart “X” addresses Stairways & ladders. Listed below are the sections to this subpart. We will only be addressing some of the basic ladder requirements in this presentation.
 - 1926.1050—Scope, application, and definitions applicable to this subpart
 - 1926.1051—General Requirements
 - 1926.1052—Stairways
 - 1926.1053—Ladders
 - 1926.1060—Training Requirements



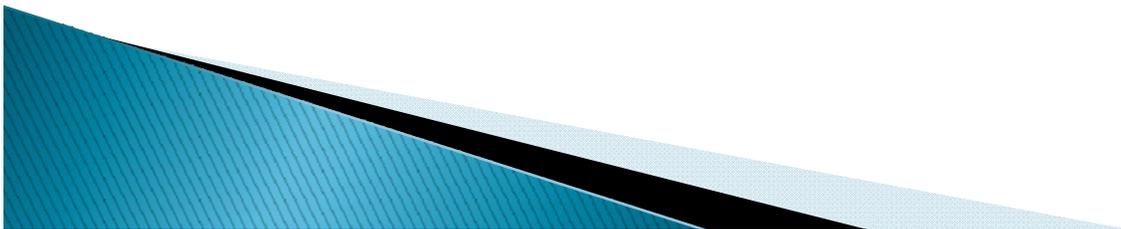
Section 1926.1050--Definitions

- ▶ The mechanic should be aware of the different types of ladders as they apply to the OSHA standard. Different ladders will have different requirements in the standard. Some of the ladders that are defined are...
 - Double-cleat ladder; Extension trestle ladder; Fixed ladder; Individual-rung/step ladder; Job-made ladder; Ladder stand; Portable ladder; Side-step fixed ladder; Single cheet ladder; Single-rail ladder; Step stool (ladder type); and Through fixed ladder.
- ▶ Above are just the ladders that are addressed there is also definitions on such things as...
 - Maximum intended load; Point of access and others that address ladder usage.



Section 1926.1053—Ladders

We will not be addressing all the requirements for ladders in this section. Your book has a hand out which addresses a safe procedure when climbing a ladder. This is by no means the only requirement for ladders. The mechanic should be familiar with *all* of the requirements of the OSHA standard when using ladders.



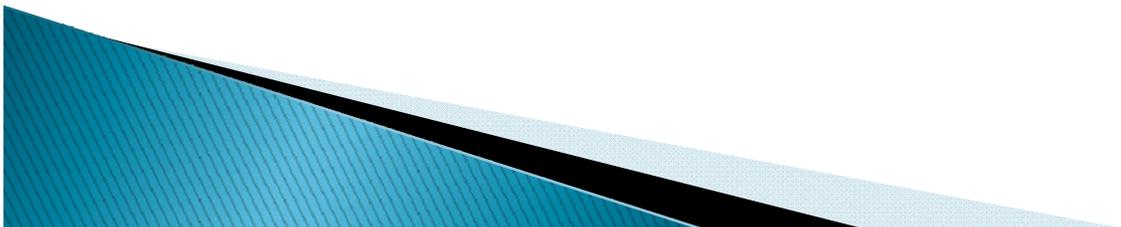
Subpart P—Excavations

- ▶ OSHA’s subpart “P” addresses Excavations. Listed below are the sections to this subpart. We will only be addressing some of the basic requirements in this presentation.
 - 1926.650—Scope, application, and definitions applicable to this subpart
 - 1926.651—Specific excavation requirements
 - 1926.652—Requirements for protective systems.
 - Appendix A—Soil Classification
 - Appendix B—Sloping & Benching
 - Appendix C—Timber Shoring & Trenches
 - Appendix D—Hydraulic Shoring for Trenches
 - Appendix E—Alternatives to Timber Shoring
 - Appendix F—Protective Systems



Subpart P—Excavations

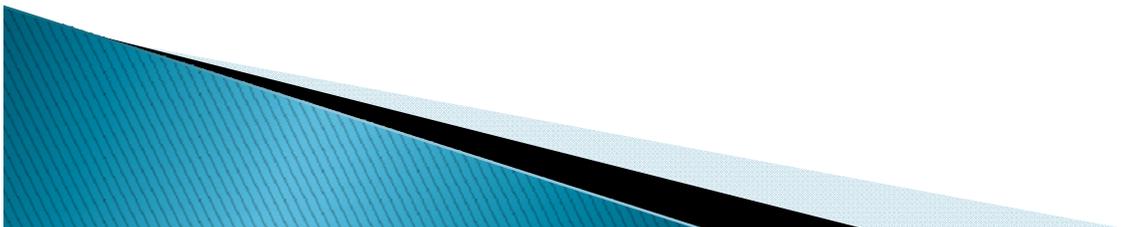
Just as in the section with ladders, there is not enough time to address the entire section on OSHA requirements for excavations. Some projects have gone as far as to require a trenching and excavation card to show that the employee has had training in the proper way of working in and excavating a trench. This course will typically take 3 to 4 hours on this section, rather than just a review as required by OSHA, with a test afterwards to obtain the card. There is *not* an OSHA requirement for this card and there is no OSHA curriculum for this course.



Emergency Shower and Eye-wash Stations

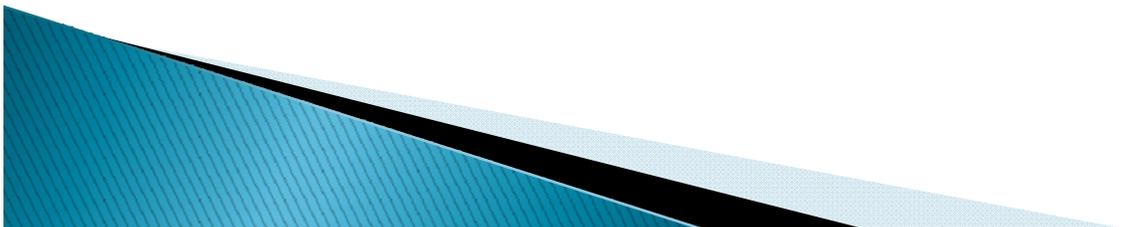
It may come as a surprise to many that the requirements for emergency shower and eye-wash stations cannot be found in the plumbing code but instead are found in OSHA's 1910 General Industry Regulations and the ANSI standards.

This information is in your handout.



Emergency Shower and Eye-wash Stations

- ▶ OSHA General Regulation 29 CFR 1910.151 (c), applies to the location of emergency shower and eye-wash stations. The regulation reads in part...
 - *“Where the eyes or body of any person may be exposed to injurious corrosive materials, suitable facilities for quick drenching or flushing of the eyes and body shall be provided within the work area for immediate emergency use”*
- ▶ ANSI standard Z358.1-1990 are the requirements for operation and installation of emergency shower and eye-wash stations.



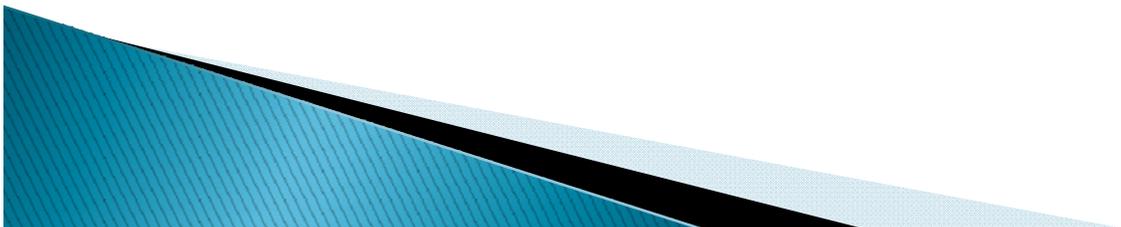
Emergency Shower Requirements: for plumbed emergency showers.

▶ Heads

- Position 82" to 96" above the floor
- Spray pattern will have a minimum diameter of 20" at 60" above the floor.
- Flow Rate=20 GPM at 30 PSI
- The center of the spray pattern shall be at least 16" from any obstruction.

▶ Valves

- Activate in 1 second or less.
- Stay-open valve (no use of hands).
- Valve remains on until the user shuts it off.



Emergency Shower Requirements: for plumbed emergency showers.

▶ Installation

- Emergency Shower shall be located in an area that requires no more than 10 seconds to reach.
- Shower location shall be in a well-lit area and identified with a sign.
- Shower shall be located on the same level as the hazard.

▶ Maintenance and Training

- Plumbed emergency showers will be activated weekly to verify correct operation.
 - All employees who might be exposed to a chemical splash shall be trained in the use of the equipment.
 - All showers shall be inspected annually to make sure they meet with ANSI Z358.1 requirements
- 

Eye-wash Station Requirements

▶ Heads

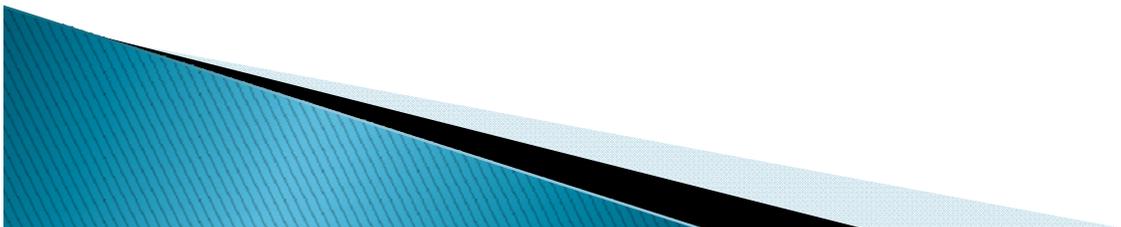
- Positioned 33” to 45” above the floor.
- Positioned 6” from wall or nearest obstruction.
- 0.4 GPM for 15 minutes at 30 PSI for plumbed units.
- 0.4 GPM for 15 minutes at 30 PSI for gravity feed units.

▶ Valves

- Activate in 1 second or less.
- Stay open valve leaving hands free.

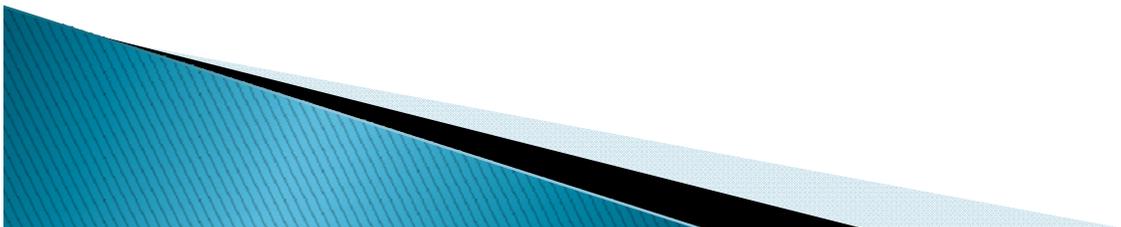
▶ Installation

- Eye wash stations shall be located in an area that requires no more than 10 seconds to reach.
- The location of the eye wash station shall be in a well-lit area and identified with a sign
- Eye wash stations shall be on the same level as the hazard.



Eye-wash Station Requirements

- ▶ Maintenance and Training
 - A plumber eye wash station will be activated weekly to verify proper operation.
 - Gravity-feed units shall be maintained according to the manufacture's instructions.
 - All employees who might be exposed to a chemical splash shall be trained in the use of the equipment.
 - All eye/face wash stations shall be inspected annually to make sure they meet with ANSI Z358.1 requirements.



Lead Awareness

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has come out with lead-based paint requirements. A certification is required if you are working in a child occupied building constructed prior to 1978. Most minor repair and maintenance of less than six square feet interior room of 20 square feet or exterior project are exempt from the work practice requirements. At least one person in the company must have the certification if you are working in these conditions.

