



QUALITY | PRIDE | SERVICE

Toolbox Talk March 13, 2023 Eliminating Hazards

Every single day Gray & Son employees are faced with hazards, whether that is walking out of our house in the morning, or during the tasks we complete at work. For a workplace to be safe, the employees must have the training and knowledge to be able to recognize hazards and take actions to mitigate them. All too often, hazards are recognized or identified, but actions are not taken to **eliminate the hazard**. When this occurs, the hazard is left to be dealt with by anyone in that work area.

Examples of Hazards Being Left to be Dealt With

1. A piece of metal is sticking up out of the ground in a work area on a construction site. An employee lets his fellow workers know of the presence of the metal however, that is all the action that is taken. Anyone walking through that area still must deal with that hazard. A more effective response would be to call a piece of heavy equipment over to remove the metal from the ground.
2. A leaky pipe is causing a wet spot on a factory floor. The leak was spotted months ago, but the only response was to put up a sign to warn personnel of slick conditions. Taking the time to fix the pipe properly ensures employees do not slip due to the wet conditions.

Summary

Do not just “deal” with hazards, eliminate them whenever possible. All too often, the time or energy is not spent to properly address and eliminate hazards to make a work area or work task safe. It is true that taking some action is better than none, but often it does not take much more time to get the problem fully corrected to be sure no one will be injured by that hazard.

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We are an equal opportunity employer

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