

Safety Matters

September

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Even King Arthur's knights wore hard hats

Today, hard hats are worn by workers in many types of jobs. They are also worn by football players, soldiers, and bike riders. Whether for work or play, they have an essential role in safety.

It's not a new concept. King Arthur's knights in shining armor wore metal helmets to protect their heads. Ancient drawings depict people in head-protecting hats in the ancient civilizations of China, Egypt, Greece, and Rome.

The first protective hats made by E.W. Bullard Company, a mining equipment maker, were made of leather. When Bullard's son returned from the First World War with a steel helmet, that changed.

In the 1933 construction of the Golden Gate Bridge, all workers had to wear safety helmets. Bullard also designed a helmet for sandblasters with a shield in front, like a window, and a hose for breathing.

In 1938, the first aluminum hard hats were made. They were very durable and lightweight. These hats had one serious drawback: aluminum is a great conductor of electricity.

In the 1950s and 1960s, thermoplastics became the newer material. Manufacturers injected thermoplastic into a mold to produce a hard hat. Helmets are now made of a high-density plastic. They save lives. So, wear yours!

Article appears courtesy of Pagesmag.com

Concussion Awareness Day
September 19th



September is National Food Safety Education Month!

This month take an active role in preventing foodborne illness, also known as "food poisoning". The Federal government estimates that there are about 48 million cases of foodborne illness annually – that's about 1 in 6 Americans each year. Each year, these illnesses result in an estimated 128,000 hospitalizations and 3,000 deaths. Following simple food safety tips can help lower your chance of getting sick.



Go to [FDA.GOV](https://www.fda.gov) for everything you need to stay safe.

When thawing frozen food, it's best to plan ahead and thaw in the refrigerator where it will remain at a safe, constant temperature — at 40 °F or below.

Safety Focused

Child Passenger Safety Week

Child Passenger Safety Week is recognized each year in September and brings heightened awareness to how parents and caregivers can keep children safe in vehicles. Child Passenger Safety Week 2025 will be held from September 21-27.

By the Numbers

- Every day in 2023, on average, two children under 14 were killed and 345 were injured in traffic crashes while riding in passenger vehicles.
- In 2023, 43% of children killed in car crashes were unrestrained.

Get Your Car Seat Inspected

As part of Child Passenger Safety week, National Seat Check Saturday, on September 27, is a day for you to receive free instruction on how to correctly install and use the right car seats for your children.

Use NHTSA's [Car Seat Inspection locator](#) to find a location near you.

Find the Right Car Seat

It's important to choose the right seat and use it correctly every time your child is in the car.

- Learn about the four [car seat types](#).
- Follow [NHTSA's car seat recommendations](#) based on your child's age and size.
- Use the [Car Seat Finder](#) to compare car seats and ease-of-use-ratings.

Get all the information at [NHTSA.GOV](#)

Do you know your evacuation zone?

Evacuation Zones encompass low-lying areas, susceptible to flooding and storm surge. When emergencies or disasters happen, officials issue evacuation warnings or mandatory evacuation orders for communities in impacted or potentially impacted Evacuation Zones. In Delaware, Evacuation Zones are identified as either A, B, C or D.

To find your zone, click: [Know Your Zone – PrepareDE](#)

Did You Know?

The State of Delaware is experiencing an increase in slip, trip, and fall related claims with more than 700 reported each year and over \$6 million in annual incurred losses.

Preventing Falls

- Keep a clean and orderly workplace
- Maintain clean and dry floors
- Clear hazards and obstructions
- Provide adequate lighting
- Communicate hazards
- Provide and use handrails
- Use proper footwear
- Mark aisles and passageways
- Use ladders and lifts properly, as intended
- Maintain personal awareness and focus
- Use guardrails and covers when needed
- Determine correct floor cleaning and treatment
- Continuously evaluate surfaces



Upcoming Webinars

The ICO conducts monthly webinars on various safety topics open to all employees.

Please Join Our Monthly Webinar for information on "Hazard Recognition and Corrective Action," September 18th, at 9:00 am, search the title on the DLC or click this link:

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)