

# WORKERS' COMP NEWS

Educational Purchasing Council & Hunter Consulting

NOVEMBER 6th, 2007

Volume 1, Issue 2

## Preparing a De-Ice Strategy



Bus drivers are the first to arrive and their areas need to be addressed to insure their safety walking to the buses.

Winter is once again upon us and a common factor in slips/falls this time of year is ice. Preparing a de-icing strategy for your school is crucial as your staff will be the first to encounter these treacherous paths.

One of the items we would like to address in this issue is the fact that bus drivers are going to be the first to arrive on school grounds. The areas where they will trek are the first that should be addressed. This item is often overlooked because of the time of these employees arrival and out of the way locations. Yet they are crucial to saving them from the injuries associated with slips and falls.

Main thoroughfares, sidewalks, entranceways and any area used by employees will need to be addressed next. Then any remaining areas where students and others will be moving through.

There may be a need for non-slip materials and/or doormats to decrease slipping once inside due to moisture gathering in these areas where feet are being cleaned of snow. Also, being fall the leaves are falling on these areas and these can cause a potentially hazardous situation for your employees, staff and students.

## Unemployment Compensation News: What Can a School Do to Avoid Paying Employee Benefits During Winter Break?

To prevent your district from being charged benefits during a customary holiday/vacation recess period, the employer needs to hold a meeting the day before the break begins for all substitutes that are non-teaching and who do not hold an actual contract for the current term (ie: cooks, maintenance, etc...). Be sure to mention that this is a Mandatory Meeting and have a sign in sheet at the meeting. The issues to be discussed are up to you. You can speak about safety in the workplace, new hires, academic achievements of the district, etc... We suggest the meeting last about an hour. This will also give you the opportunity to address any issues that employees may have.

If you happen to get charged for an employees benefits during the customary holiday/vacation period, notify Dove Staley, UC Acct Mgr immediately so we can appeal the charges to your account. Keep in mind ORC 4141.241 and 4141.25 - if you are a base period employer, you will not have appeal rights for these charges. If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Dove Staley  
Unemployment Account Manager  
Hunter Consulting Company  
Phone (800) 486-6652 ext 117  
Fax (513) 231-4325

**Preparing a De-ice strategy for your school** 1

**Unemployment Compensation News: Holiday meeting for subs** 1

**10 Steps to Prepare for an OSHA Inspection.** 2  
**By: Gary Hanson**

**Ohio BWC to Hold Public Forum on Group Rating** 2

**Special points of interest:**

- **CorVel Advertisement**



## Hunter Consulting

6600 Clough Pike  
P.O. Box 54865  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45254-0865

Tel: (800) - 486 - 6652  
Fax: 513 - 231 - 4325  
E-mail: rlewis@hunterconsulting.com



Hunter Consulting Company

Workers' Comp. & Unemployment TPA

**We're on the web**

**See: [www.hunterconsulting.com](http://www.hunterconsulting.com)**

If you need any additional assistance with your Safety Program, call Gary Hanson at 1-800-356-1274.



CorVel Ohio has four convenient locations to serve you.

CorVel Town is just about everywhere. It's the name we give to CorVel's extensive network of care that connects employers, doctors and patients across the state of Ohio through advanced technology and good old-fashioned onsite care. This community is linked by a simple mission: to deliver injured workers the quality healthcare they need to get back to work, back to their families, friends, and their communities.

**CorVel Town Ohio offers Enterprise Comp, a BWC Certified MCO and Liability Injury Management.**

Our mission is delivered by CorVel's case management team, who is URAC accredited for case management v. 3.0. Our services exist to assist employees and the communities in which they live.

*The communities of CorVel Town.  
An Ohio Community Connected by a Caring MCO*

**CORVEL**

## 10 Steps to Prepare for an OSHA Inspection

By : Gary Hanson, President of American Safety & Health Management Consultants, Inc.

1. Have a plan and be prepared. Know why OSHA would inspect your facility.
2. Assign a management representative the responsibility to oversee the plan and be the point person in case of an inspection. It will be his/her responsibility to have everything available and ready. He/She should also be well versed in the OSHA Inspection Process.
3. Conduct and record worksite safety inspections. This will greatly reduce citations as a result of the OSHA Walk Around. Document inspection results and the corrective action you have taken.
4. Resolve employee related safety concerns quickly. This the **number one** reason why OSHA would be likely to show up at your door
5. Keep your OSHA records up to date. OSHA will want to see your OSHA 300 Log and the OSHA Summary 300A for the past 3 years. Make sure OSHA Recordable Cases are listed.
6. Work hard to keep your Lost Time Cases and Transitional Duty Cases as low as possible. If this rate gets above the National Average for your industry class, your company will show up on the Annual Target List.
7. Make sure all of your required safety training is done. Keep these records in a central location where they can be quickly obtained.
8. Keep all of your written Safety Policies up to date. OSHA will want to review these and if they are not up to date there will be citations issued.
9. Stay up on the OSHA Regulations that affect your company and any changes that take place.
10. Audit your Plan annually. Go over each of the elements listed above and review this with all key management representatives. An ounce of prevention will save time and money later.

## BWC Directors to Hold Public Forum on Group Rating

The Ohio BWC Board of Directors' Actuarial Committee will hold a special meeting on November 14, 2007. They will be discussing the proposed reduction of Ohio's group-rating discount for the upcoming program year which begins on July 1, 2008. The Committee is considering reducing Ohio's group rating discount from 90 % to no less than 80 %. They will hear public input on the issue in a forum which will be held in Columbus. The meeting will be held at 30 W. Spring Street in the auditorium of the William Green Building from 9:00-11:00 am on Wednesday, November 14. The deadline to register for this meeting is Friday, November 9, 2007. Please see [www.ohiobwc.com](http://www.ohiobwc.com) for more information on how to register.