SAFETY WEEK

MAY 4–8, 2026

by Michael Donlon

Construction Safety Week is a week-long event that happens annually. The construction industry takes this opportunity to commit to ensure every worker goes home safe and healthy every day. All companies — no matter their size — are welcome to get involved in Safety Week at no cost. As leaders in construction, Safety Week Members pay annual dues and help shape Safety Week content and materials for the entire industry. Sponsors also pay dues to show support for the industry. There are minimal dues to join as an advocate.

Start planning now for a successful safety week by going to the Home – Construction Safety Week website and reviewing the resources. The Planning Playbook and Best Practices Planning Document with preplanning the week and developing events for your worksites. Download the Safety Week branded materials; logos, letterhead, jobsite banners and more to help Safety Week come alive. Create a planning committee with people assigned to plan and execute site events, promote the event internally, and with trade partners and vendors, focus on safety during the events, work with vendors on presentations and demonstrations. Leadership should convey the significance of Safety Week by using safety messages, tailgate talks, or a video message on social media.

Next, plan site events. Some projects may lend themselves to big events and some will require keeping it simple. Consider what will work for your employees. The Safety Week website has daily toolbox talks following this year's theme of Recognize, Respond and Respect plus one to recognize OSHA's Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls, which is occurring the same week. Consider doing safety demonstrations and an appreciation breakfast or lunch. Discuss mental health and share the resources from the website. Have leadership visit the jobsites to shake hands and talk with employees about safety. The options are endless, and the Safety Week website is full of ideas and resources.

Do not forget the office staff. Bring in a first responder to talk about fire safety and evacuation procedures. Have an ergonomist demonstrate self and peer ergonomic assessments. Set up site visits for employees that do not get to see the projects they support, with proper clothing, footwear and PPE of course.

Construction Safety Week is a time to build on the safety culture. The underlying message should be the company cares about their employees' wellbeing. Ask for thoughts on procedures that could be improved or tools that could help ensure all employees go home every day with 10 fingers, two eyes and one life. Use this week to inspire employees to work safely and to look out for their co-workers' safety.