

July 24, 2020 www.vpcma.com

Virginia Covid 19 Workplace Standard to become Effective Next Week Employer Training Requirement Effective in 30 Days

As we have reported, the Northam Administration has passed regulations requiring every workplace in Virginia to assess and rank every job and facility for its risk of virus spread. Record keeping will be required for those showing symptoms or testing positive for COVID-19 and to prevent those sick employees from returning to work until given clearance. Every employer with 10 or more workers has 60 days to prepare a written disease prevention and response plan. By the end of August employers must conduct training for all employees based upon the risk of their jobs. Below is information on a webinar being conducted next week by the Virginia Retail Federation on this issue.

The link to the regulation is here:

The Virginia Department of Labor and Industries has an Consultation Program for small employers (up to 250 employees at one site or 500 nationwide) which is available to assist employers with compliance. The link to that information may be found here:

https://www.doli.virginia.gov/vosh-programs/consultation/

Additionally the Department's Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) also have the ability to be of assistance:

https://www.doli.virginia.gov/voluntary-protection-program/

Webinar on COVID-19 Emergency Regulations July 29, 3pm From Virginia Retail Federation

Join Courtney Malveaux of the Jackson Lewis law firm to learn how your business will be impacted by new COVID-19 Emergency Regulations, and how you can prepare.

Virginia Occupational Safety and Health (VOSH), the state's version of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), will enforce a standard that mandates — and, in some instances, exceeds — guidance issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and OSHA. The new standard covers most private employers in Virginia, as well as all state and local employees.

Directional Signing Program, LLC Replaced Virginia Logos as of July 1

VPCMA members comprise a large percentage of businesses on the the state's blue highway logo signs, and over the years we have been engaged in contentious negotiations with other business interests on issues like hours of operation, parking spaces and even what constitutes breakfast. Twelve years ago we had to go to the General Assembly to put a cap on logo sign fees which had increased precipitously in the 2000 decade. We have served on the statewide Logo Sign Advisory Committee since and thru the leadership of VDOT, most concerns have been addressed before they become problematic.

The IDSP is an umbrella program for a variety of sign types that help guide motorists to various essential services, businesses, attractions, tourist destinations, and other points of interest and will be run as a turnkey operation by Directional Signing Program. We have already had a zoom meeting with VDOT staff and DSP and have learned that they are committed to providing timely and outstanding service for your signing needs, while also meeting the needs of the traveling public A brochure with Directional Signing Program contacts and additional information may be found here.

We wish the staff of Virginia Logos the best in the future and thank them for their support of VPCMA over the years.

NORA Adds Three New Online Courses From NORA

The National Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA) has added three new online courses to its training center at Learning.NORAweb.org. Two of them, Advanced Efficiency, are components of NORA's technician Gold Certification program and offer six continuing education credits (CEU) each. The third, Bioheat Technical Guidance offers one credit.

Advanced Heating Fuel Storage Tanks and Advanced Efficiency join Advanced Hydronincs as online courses providing three of the requisite four advanced Gold Series courses necessary to upgrade to NORA Gold Certified Technician status.

According to NORA's President, John Huber, "It is important for technicians to have the ability to upgrade their certifications online. With the addition of these Gold courses, we are very near that goal." NORA anticipates adding two more Gold courses in the coming months.

"Video courses are an efficient and popular way to put important training material in front of as many technicians and students in the field as possible. They are free to the user and now that travel is restricted and many industry conferences have been cancelled, online courses are a great solution to maintaining certifications and gaining knowledge," said NORA's Director of Education, John Levey.

These three courses join the library of courses already on the site. These cover topics from equipment service to oil delivery to tank installation.

To access the courses, a technician or student must have an active user account at Learning.NORAweb.org.