

Safety Lines

COVID-19: Safety, health resources from MNOSHA available online

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry is posting updates of its services, helpful resources and other COVID-19 related information at www.dli.mn.gov/updates.

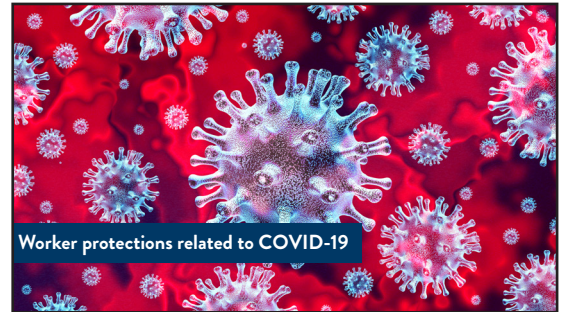
The newest resources include:

- [COVID-19 Preparedness Plan template and instructions](#); and
- [Checklist guidelines for creating a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan](#).

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) has resources and information about COVID-19, plus MNOSHA contact information, at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-novel-coronavirus-covid-19.

The newest resources include:

- [COVID-19 health and safety guidelines for the meatpacking industry](#);
- Fact sheet – [COVID-19: Protecting grocery store workers](#);
- Fact sheet – [Equipment for COVID-19, non-essential businesses](#); and
- [Worker protections related to COVID-19](#) (also available in Hmong, Somali, and Spanish); and
- [Safety and health guidelines for the employers and employees of essential work operations](#).



MNOSHA Compliance rulemaking update



On Monday, March 16, Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance proposed to adopt two federal regulations, as published in the [State Register](#).

The first proposed adoption is the “Occupational exposure to beryllium; final rule” in the construction and shipyard industries. This final rule establishes new permissible exposure limits and includes other provisions to protect employees, such as requirements for exposure assessment, methods for controlling exposure, respiratory protection, personal protective clothing and equipment, housekeeping, medical surveillance, hazard communication and recordkeeping. This rule was adopted for general industry May 21, 2018.

MNOSHA Compliance also proposed to adopt two new protocols – additional ambient aerosol condensation nuclei counter (CNC) quantitative fit testing protocols – into Appendix A of the respiratory protection standard. These new protocols were adopted by federal OSHA Sept. 26, 2019; they are the modified ambient aerosol CNC quantitative fit testing protocol for full-facepiece and half-mask elastomeric respirators and the modified ambient aerosol CNC quantitative fit testing protocol for filtering facepiece respirators. Both protocols are variations of the original OSHA-approved ambient aerosol CNC protocol but have fewer test exercises, shorter exercise duration and a more streamlined sampling sequence.

For more about MNOSHA rulemaking, visit www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/rulemaking/minnesota-osh-rulemaking.

Employee safety, health: Young workers deserve our attention, training

Thousands of teen workers enter the workforce each year. For many, it's their first time working and they are unfamiliar with their rights and responsibilities under existing labor laws and Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA) standards.

All workers have a right to a workplace free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause serious injury or harm.

Employers should promote safety, health

Employers must provide the information, orientation, and necessary tools and equipment to guide workers in making appropriate choices when performing their work. Employers can help promote worker safety and health by:

- providing adequate job orientation and training, which sets expectations early about how work will be performed;
- maintaining a clean, organized work area;
- providing and maintaining necessary machine safeguards and personal protective equipment; and
- providing adequate supervision.

Actively preventing occupational injuries and illnesses not only adds value for the business, it also sets a good example for young workers who may not otherwise think about their safety and health, when working. Supporting efforts to reduce workplace injuries and illnesses among young workers can guide them to a successful and rewarding work experience throughout their lifetime.

More susceptible to workplace accidents

Some of the reasons why young workers are more susceptible to workplace accidents include:

- unfamiliarity with the work and lack of adequate job-orientation and training;
- inadequate supervision;
- pressure to accept the job assignment – doing what's asked of them, working fast, just getting the job done;
- hazardous equipment and work environments; and
- being assigned work that is not age or skill-level appropriate.

Resources

From the Department of Labor and Industry

How do teen workers get injured? – www.dli.mn.gov/business/workers-compensation/claim-characteristics

Labor laws that affect Minnesota's teen workers – www.dli.mn.gov/business/employment-practices/teen-workers

MNOSHA Compliance: Grain-handling information, fatalities,



inspections – www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-grain-handling-information-fatalities

MNOSHA safety and health standards – www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-standards-and-regulations

MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation: Free, on-site consultative services – www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/our-areas-service/minnesota-osh-workplace-safety-consultation

From other organizations

NIOSH Alert: Preventing deaths, injuries and illnesses of young workers – www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2003-128/pdfs/2003128.pdf

Protecting young adults working in agriculture (webinar) – <https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/6426950413661223170>

Young workers: You have rights! – www.osha.gov/youngworkers



Reviewing the basics: *Recordkeeping training offered, includes webinars*

Maintaining an accurate OSHA log of recordable work-related injuries and illnesses is an important skill that benefits employers, workers, safety professionals and government agencies. The Department of Labor and Industry is offering free introductory-level training sessions about OSHA recordkeeping, in May, September and October. **Registration is required.**

Dates, times, locations

- **May 15** – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.; webinar, online only
- **Sept. 25** – 9 to 11:30 a.m.; in person, Department of Labor and Industry, 443 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN
- **Oct. 2** – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.; webinar, online only

Topics

- Recordability of injuries and illnesses
- Differences between OSHA cases and workers' compensation claims
- Classifying cases
- Counting time
- Privacy cases
- How many logs to keep
- Maintaining logs
- Creating a log summary
- Reporting log data to OSHA

Registration, more information

To register, visit <https://secure.doli.state.mn.us/events>. For more information about the training sessions, visit www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-recordkeeping-standard.



MNOSHA Compliance signs safety, health partnerships

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance recently signed nine Level 3 Cooperative Compliance Partnerships on five projects. Level 3 is the peak level of MNOSHA Compliance partnerships, with applicants striving to be an industry leader with very comprehensive safety and health programs.

The partnerships were signed under the agreement between the Minnesota Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors (MN ABC) and MNOSHA Compliance and under the Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Minnesota – between Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Minnesota and MNOSHA Compliance.

Partnerships, continues next page ...



Carl Bolander and Sons Co. and J.E. Dunn Construction, Pillsbury Hall Renovation, Minneapolis



Lyon Contracting, Inc., Nova Apartments, Richfield, Minnesota



Rice Lake Construction, Lift Station L-55, Bloomington, Minnesota



Mortenson and VEIT, Boston Scientific Corporation, Maple Grove, Minnesota



MG McGrath Glass and Glazing, MG McGrath Architectural Surfaces and Ryan Companies US, Inc., Colder Products Safety, Roseville, Minnesota

Partnerships, continues next page ...

The partnerships were for the following projects.

- **Carl Bolander and Sons Co. and J.E. Dunn Construction** for the Pillsbury Hall Rehabilitation project in Minneapolis. The project is scheduled for completion April 1, 2021.
- **Mortenson and VEIT** for the Boston Scientific Corporation project in Maple Grove, Minnesota. The project is scheduled for completion Sept. 1 (Mortenson) and Sept. 22 (VEIT), 2020.
- **Lyon Contracting, Inc.** for the Nova Apartments project in Richfield, Minnesota. The project is scheduled for completion March 1, 2020.
- **MG McGrath Glass and Glazing, MG McGrath Architectural Surfaces and Ryan Companies US, Inc.** for the Colder Products Safety project in Roseville, Minnesota. The project is scheduled for completion Sept. 1, 2020.
- **Rice Lake Construction** for the Lift Station L-55 project in Bloomington, Minnesota. The project is scheduled for completion May 1, 2021.

More information

The Cooperative Compliance Partnerships acknowledge the importance of providing a safe, healthful work environment in construction and seek a working relationship that creates mutual trust and respect among all parties – including project owners and construction workers – involved in the construction process.

Participants may achieve three award levels: basic; intermediate; and peak.

Complete information about MNOSHA's Cooperative Compliance Partnerships is online at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-partnership-programs.

Construction Seminar, May 10: Cranes in construction

Cranes are common on many construction sites in a variety of sizes and capacities. There are significant safety issues to be considered for the operators, the riggers and signal persons, the jobsite supervisors and managers, and the other trade partners in proximity to the diverse devices.

Attend this Construction Seminar, May 19, at 7 a.m., for an update about the crane standard for construction in Minnesota. Learn what common crane hazards are often found on construction sites and how to eliminate them through best practices.

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance's free Construction Seminars feature a presentation about a specific construction safety or health topic, plus an update from MNOSHA Compliance about what's currently happening regarding investigations.

Visit www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-construction-seminars for complete information.



The changing age trend among injured construction workers

By Brian Zaidman, Research and Statistics

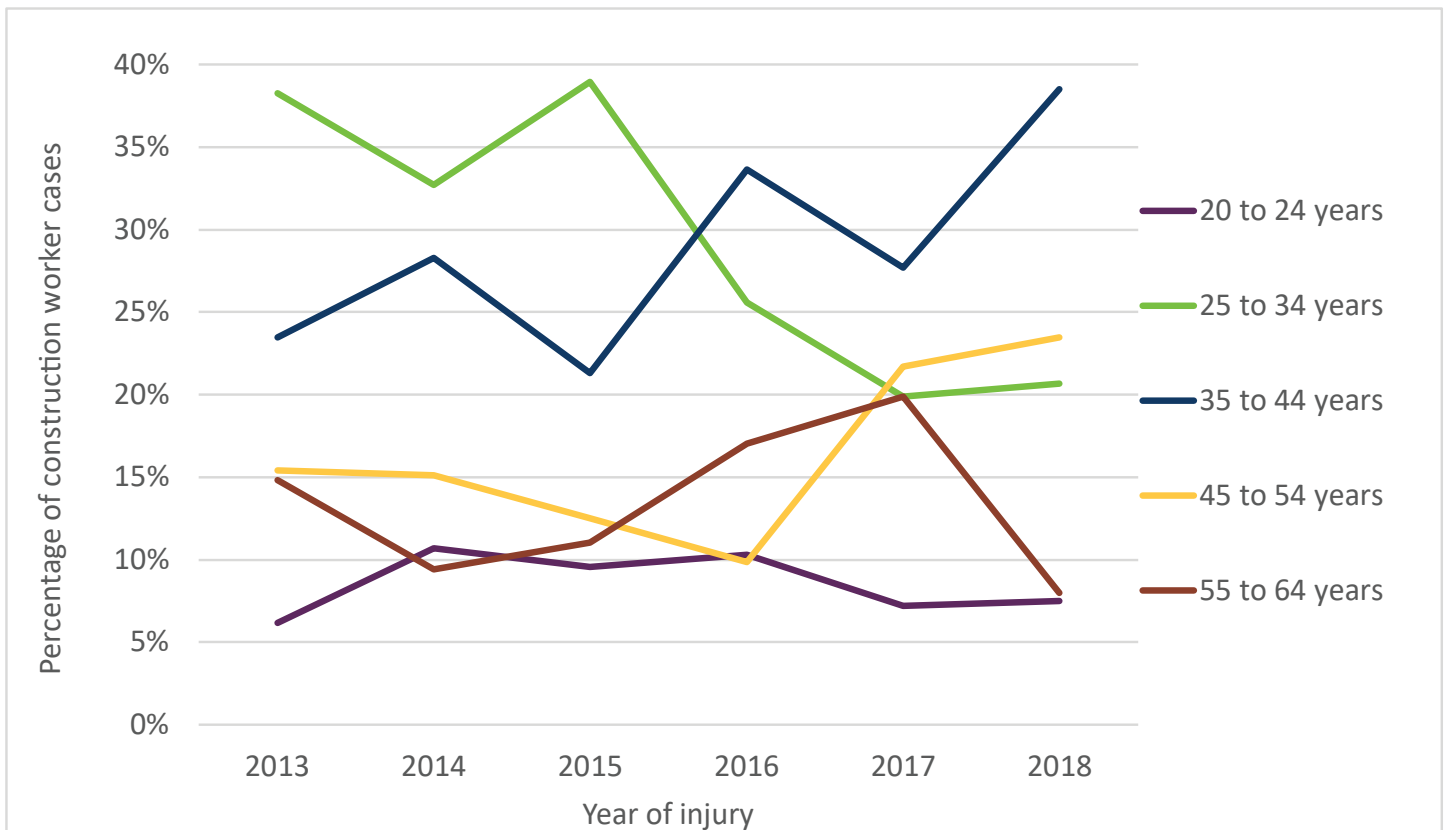
Construction workers accounted for 12% of the workers' compensation cases with one or more days away from work among private ownership employers in 2018. The total case injury rate in construction was 5.0 cases per 100 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers in 2018, compared to a rate of 3.2 cases per 100 FTE workers among all private-ownership industries.



Changing workforce demographics in the construction industry since the end of the recession period are apparent in the distribution trend of cases with one or more days away from work. As shown in Figure 1, the percentage of cases among those 25 to 34 years old decreased from 38% in 2013 to 21% in 2018, while the percentage of cases to workers 35 to 44 years old increased from 23% to 38%. The percentage of cases to workers 45 to 54 years old also increased during these years. In contrast, the percentage of cases to workers 55 to 64 years old dropped from 20% in 2017 to 8% in 2018.

Additional monitoring will determine whether this decrease among older construction workers reflects changes in injury incidence or if it is an artifact of reporting and survey sampling.

Figure 1. Distribution of worker age, 2013 through 2018



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses.

Recordkeeping notes: You can still report your log summary to OSHA

While March 2 was the deadline for electronically reporting your OSHA Form 300A (log summary) data for calendar-year 2019, the reporting system is still active. Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) encourages employers to send their log summary information using the federal OSHA data collection website.

History

In May 2018, MNOSHA adopted the federal regulation to improve tracking of workplace injuries and illnesses. MNOSHA did not adopt Appendix A – Partially Exempt Industries. What this means is all Minnesota establishments with 20 or more employees are now required to submit their OSHA Form 300A data to federal OSHA. The Injury Tracking Application (ITA) Login page is at www.osha.gov/injuryreporting/ita.

Frequently asked questions

Q: When do I need to submit my data to OSHA?

A: Establishments that are required to submit their data will have to submit all the required information by March 2 of the year after the calendar year covered by the form or forms (for example, by March 2, 2020, for the forms covering 2019).

Q: Why am I submitting my data at the federal injury tracking application?

A: MNOSHA does not have a separate data collection application and uses the federal injury tracking application.

Q: On the Injury Tracking Application Login it says not all establishments are covered by this reporting requirement. Do I still have to submit my information?

A: Yes, MNOSHA did not adopt the industry exemptions, so all industries in Minnesota are required to submit their data.

Q: What is the size requirement for me to submit my data?

A: If you had establishments with 20 or more employees at any time during the previous year, you are required to submit your data for those establishments.

Q: If I reported my data to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, do I still need to report to OSHA?

A: Yes, these are separate programs and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is prohibited by federal law from sharing data with OSHA. The U.S. Department of Labor is working on a solution to reduce duplicate reporting.

Q: How does OSHA define employees?

A: All employees on your payroll, whether they are labor, executive, hourly, salary, part-time, seasonal or migrant workers are considered employees. For more detailed information about covered employees visit www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1904/1904.31.



Q: Do part-time, seasonal or temporary workers count as employees in the criteria for number of employees?

A: Yes, each individual employed in an establishment at any time during the calendar year counts as one employee, including full-time, part-time, seasonal and temporary workers. Workers from temporary help agencies are included in the count for your establishments.

Q: Do I have to have 20 employees for the whole year to have to submit my data?

A: If your establishment had 20 or more employees at any time during the previous year, you are required to submit your data.

Q: How does OSHA define an establishment?

A: An establishment is a single physical location where business is conducted or where services or industrial operations are performed.



For step-by-step instructions about using ITA, refer to the “Job Aids (How-to documentation)” located on the ITA webpage at www.osha.gov/injuryreporting.

Minnesota’s newest MNSHARP Construction worksites

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Workplace Safety Consultation recently recognized two construction worksites as Minnesota Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (MNSHARP) Construction worksites:

- McGough Construction, for its Thrivent Financial Corp Center project in Minneapolis; and
- Ryan Companies US, Inc., for its Sons of Norway project in Minneapolis.

MNSHARP Construction recognizes major-construction companies where managers and employees work together to develop safety and health programs that go beyond basic compliance with all applicable OSHA standards and result in immediate and long-term prevention of job-related injuries and illnesses. Only construction projects at least 18 months in duration are eligible for participation in MNSHARP Construction.

Learn more at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-wsc-minnesota-safety-and-health-achievement-recognition.



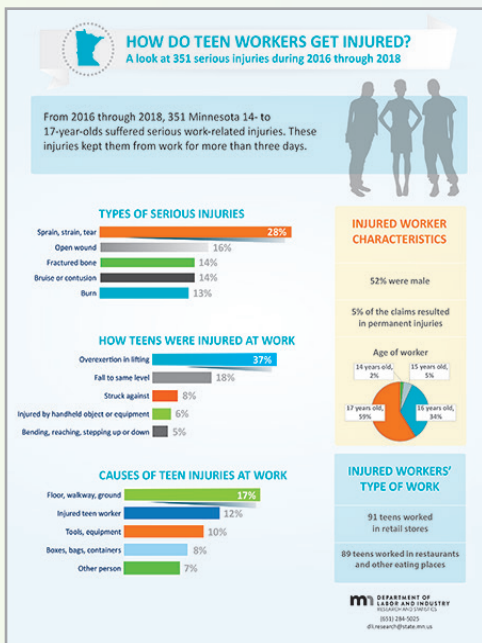
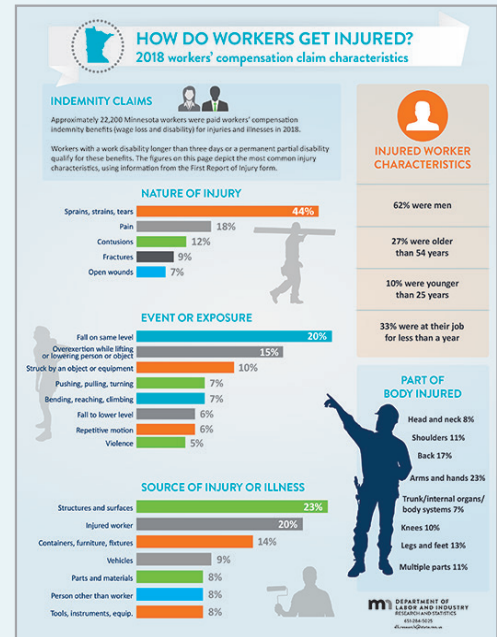
How do workers get injured?

Claim characteristics flyer updated with 2018 data

Approximately 22,200 Minnesota workers were paid workers' compensation indemnity benefits (wage loss and disability) for injuries and illnesses in 2018.

- Sixty-two percent of these workers were men.
- Twenty-seven percent were older than 54 years.
- Ten percent were younger than 25 years.
- Thirty-three percent were at their job for less than a year.

View the updated one-page flyer online at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workers-compensation/claim-characteristics.



How do teen workers get injured?

Claim characteristics flyer updated for 2016-2018

From 2016 through 2018, 351 Minnesota 14- to 17-year-olds suffered serious work-related injuries. These injuries kept them from work for more than three days.

- Fifty-two percent of these workers were male.
- Five percent of these claims resulted in permanent injuries.
- Thirty-seven percent were caused by overexertion in lifting.
- Ninety-one injured teens worked in the retail stores.

View the updated one-page flyer online at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workers-compensation/claim-characteristics.

MNOSHA fatality, serious-injury investigations summaries online

Each month, Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance publishes current, updated summaries of its fatality investigations and serious-injury investigations.

For the federal-fiscal-year that began Oct. 1, 2019, MNOSHA Compliance has investigated five workplace fatalities through March 31.

The information provided about each investigation is: the inspection number, date of incident and worksite city; the type of business and number of employees; a description of the event; and the outcome of the MNOSHA Compliance investigation. The summaries, plus other helpful workplace safety and health information from MNOSHA, are available at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-resources-all-industries.

– SAFETY AND HEALTH OBSERVANCES, 2020* –

Excavation Safety Stand-down

Make a plan to protect workers
and prevent accidents

June 15-19, 2020



Minnesota OSHA, with other safety professionals, is participating in a fourth annual statewide **Excavation Safety Stand-down**, June 15 through 19, to raise awareness among employers and workers about preventing excavation accidents, which have resulted in three fatalities to Minnesota workers from 2016 through 2019, due to trench collapses.

Learn more: www.dli.mn.gov/excavation

For the seventh year, Minnesota OSHA joins federal OSHA and others to participate in the **National Safety Stand-down to Prevent Falls in Construction**, rescheduled dates to be announced, to raise awareness among employers and workers about preventing falls, which account for the highest number of deaths in the construction industry. During the stand-down, employers and workers are asked to pause their day to talk about fall prevention in the construction industry and discuss topics such as ladder safety, scaffolding safety and roofing work safety.

Join the
**National Safety
Stand-Down**
To Prevent Falls in Construction

Postponed



Learn more: www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown

RESCHEDULED New Date: October 19-20, 2020

**MINNESOTA SAFETY &
HEALTH CONFERENCE**
MYSTIC LAKE CENTER



The Minnesota Safety Council is hosting its **86th Annual Minnesota Safety and Health Conference**, Oct. 19 and 20, at Mystic Lake Center in Prior Lake, Minnesota – two days of training, networking, inspiration, products and awards. Representatives from Minnesota OSHA Compliance and Minnesota OSHA Workplace

Safety Consultation will be at the exhibit hall booths and leading various sessions.

Learn more: www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org/conf

**All dates subject to change. Visit website identified for current information.*

Minnesota OSHA's calendar of events*

May 2020

- May 1** *Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council*
www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/occupational-safety-and-health-advisory-council
- May 15** *OSHA recordkeeping training – online only*
www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-recordkeeping-standard
- May 19** *Construction Seminar – Cranes in construction*
www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-construction-seminars

June 2020

- June 5** *Occupational Safety and Health Review Board*
www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/occupational-safety-and-health-review-board
- June 15-19** *Excavation Safety Stand-down Week*
www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/excavation-stand-down

August 2020

- Aug. 7** *Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council*
www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/occupational-safety-and-health-advisory-council

September 2020

- Sept. 25** *OSHA recordkeeping training – in person*
www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-recordkeeping-standard

October 2020

- Oct. 2** *OSHA recordkeeping training – online only*
www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-recordkeeping-standard

****All dates subject to change.***

See more at www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/about-dli/events-minnesota-osh