



## **Responding to Changing Conditions**

It never fails – we do all the proper planning, develop our Hot Weather Safety Plan, make changes to the work schedule, and then the heat never shows up. Or worse yet – we are GOING to do all that planning, and we skip spring and head straight into the summer heat before we're ready.

Summer weather can be unpredictable, and it is not always the same week to week, or even day to day. So how can we prepare for the weather, if we don't know what to expect?

### **Weather Radio**

Weather radios do the same thing as a weather app, only it isn't in your pocket. If your radio is affiliated with the NOAA system, however, it can keep you abreast of heat advisories, heat warnings, as well as impending weather or storm conditions.

### **Phone Apps**

Since nearly everyone on the job site likely has a smart phone in their pocket, using apps to track weather conditions is a simple way to keep on top of changing conditions. Many apps have notifications you can set for different types of alerts and monitoring. Some recommended apps:

#### *OSHA/NIOSH Heat Safety Tool App*

- A visual indicator of the current heat index and associated risk levels specific to your current geographical location
- Precautionary recommendations specific to heat index-associated risk levels
- An interactive, hourly forecast of heat index values, risk level, and recommendations for planning outdoor work activities in advance
- Editable location, temperature, and humidity controls for calculation of variable conditions
- Signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses including: heat stroke, heat exhaustion, rhabdomyolysis, heat cramps, and heat rash
- First aid information for heat-related illnesses

#### *FEMA All Hazards Mobile App*

- Alerts from the National Weather Service: Receive severe weather alerts for up to five locations across the U.S. and information about how to stay safe.
- Maps of disaster resources: Locate and receive driving directions to open shelters and disaster recovery centers.



- Custom emergency safety information: Save a custom list of the items in your emergency kit, as well as the places you will meet in case of an emergency.
- Safety tips: Receive safety and preparedness reminders and learn how to stay safe before, during, and after over 20 types of hazards, including floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and earthquakes.

#### *National Weather Service (NWS)*

Wherever you are, you can get the local weather forecast from the National Weather Service with one click on your home screen. Follow these three steps for one-click access to your local forecast.

- Visit [weather.gov](http://weather.gov) on your cell phone
- Click Send button in iPhone or Menu button on Android
- Choose “Add to Home Screen”

#### **SAFETY REMINDER**

**No one likes a single-use tool – a strong weather app can give you notifications for more than just heat – track tornados, severe thunderstorms, or other weather than could impact your work site.**