



SAFETY TALK

Stinging and biting insects

During the summer months stinging insects can become hazards at outdoor worksites. Common stinging and biting insects include bees, wasps, mosquitoes and biting flies.

What's the danger?

These stings or bites leave a red, itchy and swollen mark on the body. The major issue is with those who are severely allergic to bee stings, also known as anaphylaxis.

Symptoms of anaphylactic shock include:

- Swollen eyes and eyelids
- Wheezing, tightness in the chest, and difficulty breathing
- Hoarse voice or swelling of the tongue
- Dizziness
- Shock, unconsciousness or cardiac arrest

Protect yourself

- Wear insect repellent containing DEET
- Have workers trained in first-aid to treat insect stings and bites
- Allergic workers should carry an EpiPen® auto injector or have one immediately available
- Wear light-colored long clothing, reducing the amount of exposed skin
- Do not wear perfumes, colognes, or scented products that may be attractive to insects
- Avoid working in areas with flowering plants or near nests
- Have a means of communication in place to call for medical assistance should an allergic worker be stung
- Keep work areas clean and free of debris, standing water or discarded waste and food

Print and review this talk with your staff, sign off and file for COR™ / SECOR audit purposes.

Date: _____

Performed by: _____

Concerns:

Employee Name:

Supervisor: _____

Location: _____

Corrective Actions:

Employee Signature:

