

keep



safety

Safety Focus of the Month

Expect the Unexpected

What does "Expect the Unexpected" mean to you on the job?

Each month we will highlight each letter of: **SIMPLE**. The safety team will be providing table tents to place around your offices.

Expect the Unexpected in every work environment!

From June 26-July 3, Week 9 of TxDOT's [Safe Days of Summer: Safety in Action!](#) campaign focuses on nature hazards. From stinging insects and poisonous plants to hurricanes and tornadoes, nature has its share of hazards that can occur when we least expect it. Put the spotlight on proactive safety practices by expecting unexpected hazards you might encounter while on the job!

Purpose

Prepare and protect yourself from potentially encountering hazardous plants and animals to reduce risk of injuries and illness on the job.



Practice

Hold tailgate meetings to assess the potential to encounter natural hazards like snakes and poisonous plants. If stinging insects come near you, calmly walk away, do not swat at them. Be observant when cutting or trimming vegetation.



People

If you come across a hazard, let your team know right away. Encourage your team members to speak up if they come into contact with something hazardous.



Expect the Unexpected

Summer sees an onslaught of an abundance of natural hazards that pose a potential threat to your safety while at work. Because of this, it's important you and your team know what to do ahead of a workday to help best protect yourself throughout the day.

Use the tips below to protect yourself from natural hazards while on the job!

1

Wear the Right PPE

Wearing your PPE is one of the most effective ways to protect you from natural hazards while at work. PPE serves as your first defense against bodily injury or illness, so it's important to make sure look through the [safety catalog](#) to ensure you have the correct PPE to complete your tasks as safely as possible!

2

Maintain Situational Awareness

Remain aware of your surroundings to help you anticipate any potential hazards while on the job. Before you get to work, take a moment to assess your environment. This will allow you to assess what's happening around you. If you see something, say something to your team to ensure everyone stays safe.

3

Play of the Day

Holding a Play of the Day meeting is a great way to make sure everyone on your team gets the mission details for the day. Use this time to focus on job site information, routes, and potential hazards. Review assigned tasks, plan safe routes, and prepare for smooth operations so everyone is safe.

FY25 Long-Term Challenge

Don't give up yet--the FY25 Long-Term Challenge is almost over!

The challenge will come to an end on August 31st and winners will receive a custom, laser engraved tumbler! All sections that have achieved Mission Zero for FY25 will be entered into a random drawing to win a free, hot and homemade breakfast prepared by Tucker, Mike, and Lori!

Good luck and stay safe!!