

FLASHPOINT

RISK MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

September 2016

SAFETY CORNER *complyND* SAFETY ALERTS

TRIVIA CONTEST INJURIES ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER HUMOR

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

It is with great excitement that Risk Management and Safety (RMS) brings you our new general safety newsletter, **Flashpoint**. RMS recognizes communication is fundamental to a successful safety program. Flashpoint is a quarterly communication designed to keep you updated on vital safety-related information. This newsletter provides safety tips, safety alerts (lessons learned) from incidents, and much more. We encourage you to participate in our trivia contest for a chance to win a prize. The winners will be highlighted in upcoming issues. Thank you for taking the time to review our newsletter and we welcome your feedback at riskman@nd.edu.

NEW RISK MANAGEMENT & SAFETY WEBSITE ~ COMING SOON!

Risk Management & Safety is excited to announce that we will be launching our new website in the near future! This new website is designed to provide a user-friendly location to find information and resources related to environmental health & safety, risk management & insurance, training, and worker's compensation at the University. Check back soon at riskmanagement.nd.edu to see the finished product!

SAFETY CORNER

Sharp Safety

"Sharps" are defined as any object that is able to cut the skin. This includes items such as needles, scalpels, syringes, razor blades, pipettes, and glass items. While often associated with the medical profession or labs, injuries involving these items can occur any time that people use or dispose of sharps. When not disposed of properly, sharps can become concealed in linen or garbage and injure other workers who encounter them unexpectedly. This exposes employees to blood and other infectious materials.

Proper handling and disposal of sharps is the most effective way of reducing this type of injury. Staff that work with sharps should be trained in their proper usage, organize their work area with appropriate disposal containers, and immediately place used items in the designated containers. Operational staff such as custodians must remain alert and watch for sharps in waste containers, particularly in areas where the use of sharps is prevalent.

For more information on preventing sharps injuries, please refer to section 15 of the [Laboratory Safety Manual](#) located on the RMS website.

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complyND

ComplyND provides the University with a solution that allows the assignment and tracking of all required campus compliance training and inspections. For additional information such as user guides, how to videos, and available courses, please visit [complyND](#).

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SAFETY ALERTS

Electrical Shock - June 2016

An employee received an electrical shock while repairing a piece of equipment due to the fact that the equipment had not been properly de-energized or locked out. A frayed energized wire came in contact with the equipment's metal housing when the machine cycled and the employee received a shock when his hand came in contact with the housing. The employee sustained injuries to the hand and was treated at the Wellness Center. For additional information see [Electrical Shock - June 2016](#).

Laceration - June 2016

While entering the driver's side of a golf cart, an employee's leg struck against a sharp edge on the outside of the vehicle resulting in a laceration. The employee received 16 stitches at the Wellness Center resulting in lost time from work. For additional information see [Laceration - June 2016](#).

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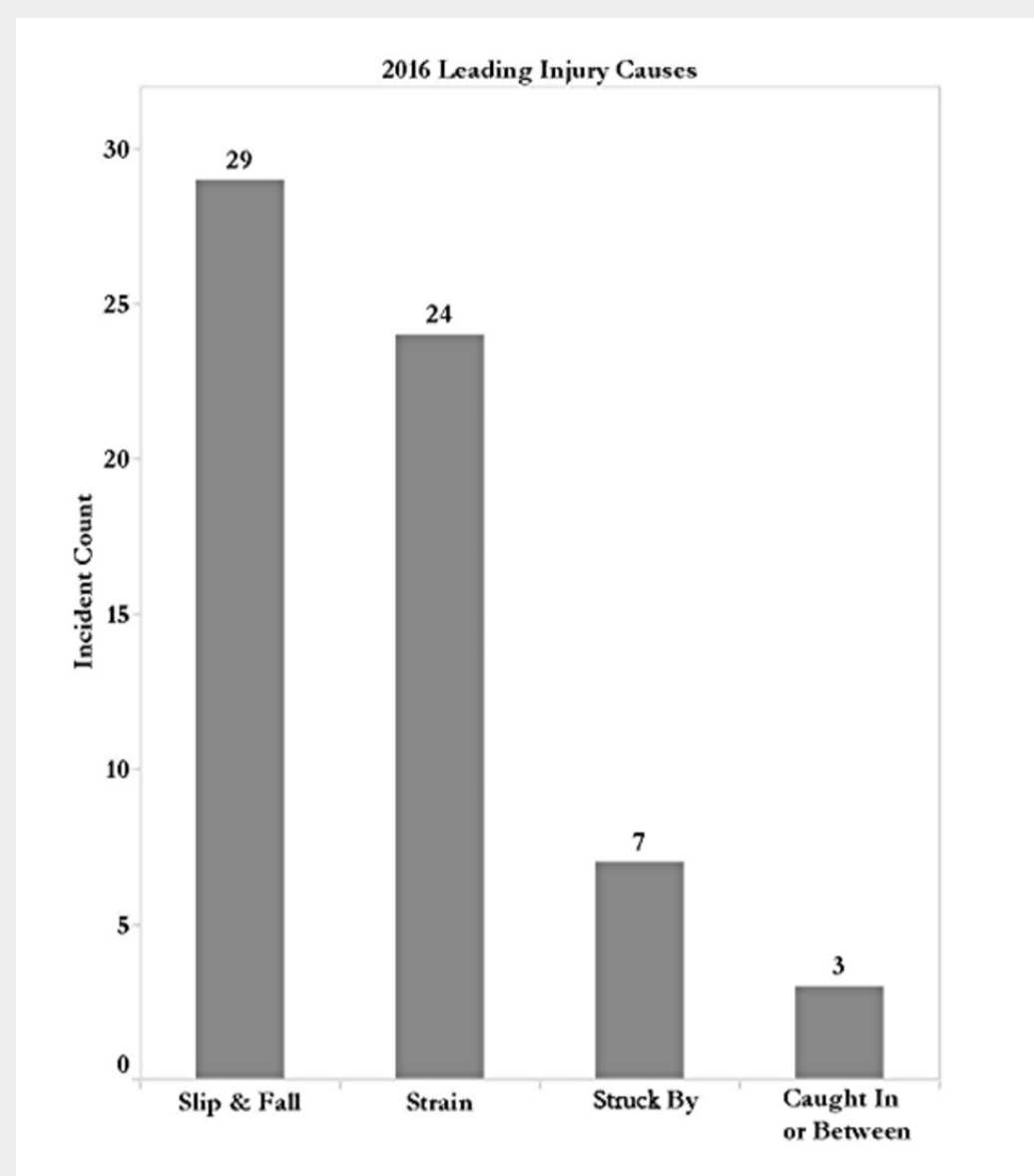
TRIVIA CONTEST

Hint: Check out the new Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) at the [RMS website](#).

A drawing will be made from all the correct responses sent to riskman@nd.edu by September 22, 2016. A prize will be awarded and the winner will be announced in our next issue.

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INJURIES



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ENVIRONMENTAL CORNER

Drinking Water at Notre Dame

The University's water system is a privately owned public water supply operated by the Utilities Department. The University's system provides water to the University community and the nearby C.S.C. properties.

There are currently seven wells serving the water system, all located on the campus proper. The water is drawn from deep aquifers surrounded by substantial clay barriers that serve to protect the groundwater supply.

The sources of tap and bottled drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Please see [Notre Dame's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report](#) for more information.

Notre Dame has tested for over 150 parameters regulated by the EPA and the State of Indiana and all of the contaminants are below allowable limits. Included in these tests were metals, volatile organics, pesticides, herbicides, synthetic organic chemicals and cyanide.

Since 1993 the University has been granted a Standardized Monitoring Framework (SMF 1), due to the high quality of the water, reducing monitoring frequencies.

Additional information is available from the [EPA's website](#).

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