



South Carolina  
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



110 Centerview Drive  
Post Office Box 11329  
Columbia, SC 29211-1329  
(803) 896-4300

Henry D. McMaster  
Governor

Emily H. Farr  
Director

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Lesia Kudelka, LLR Communications Director

Lesia.Kudelka@llr.sc.gov

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**SC OSHA Providing Assistance as State Recovers from Hurricane**

SC OSHA employees will be in areas affected by Hurricane Florence to provide assistance with safety practices and to hand out safety supplies, free of charge, to emergency workers, employers, employees, and the public to help them perform work safely as they recover from the impact of the hurricane.

SC OSHA is in compliance intervention mode right now for those affected by Hurricane Florence, providing assistance to everyone including those who are helping South Carolinians clean up and rebuild.

SC OSHA employees are traveling around affected areas of the state observing cleanup efforts. As they see potentially dangerous situations or people working without necessary safety supplies, they are stopping to educate the individuals and give them safety supplies.

Anyone in need of safety assistance, advice, or supplies can call the SC OSHA office at (803) 896-7665. A staff member can provide information on safety procedures including the location of specific educational materials. Available supplies include: hearing protection, safety glasses, gloves, dust masks and reflective vests.

A range of hazards exists following storms. Cleanup work can involve many hazards related to: debris cleanup; tree trimming; working near power lines; structural, roadway and bridge repair; hazardous waste operations; and emergency response activities. Hazards can be minimized with knowledge, safe practices, and personal protective equipment.

- SC OSHA offers the following tips for those involved in recovery:
- Evaluate the work area for hazards.
- Employ engineering or work practice controls to mitigate hazards.
- Use personal protective equipment.
- Assume all power lines are live.
- Use portable generators, saws, ladders, vehicles and other equipment properly.
- Heed safety precautions for traffic work zones.

If you have questions about SC OSHA standards, call (803) 896-7682 and 803-896-7661.