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Bogus H1N1 E-mail ALERT

An e-mail telling Iowans that they need to register for a "State Vaccination H1N1 Program" is fraudulent, according to the the Department of Public Health and the CDC. No such registry exists, and clicking on the link could infect your computer with a virus.

Des Moines Register (Health officials warn of bogus H1N1 e-mail) -

www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200991202007

DOT Random Testing Rates

The 2010 minimum drug and alcohol random testing rates for DOT-covered workers have been released. Employers subject to more than one DOT drug/alcohol testing rule may still combine employees in a random selection pool, but they must then test at or above the highest minimum rate of the agency whose jurisdiction they fall under.

US Department of Transportation (Current Random Testing Rates) - www.dot.gov/ost/dapc/rates.html?prog

Respirators - Everything You Need to Know

A new NIOSH web page under development contains information on 1) types of respirators (approved models, where to get them); 2) how to use them in the workplace; and 3) assorted facts on their function and performance.

NIOSH (Respirator Trusted-Source Information Page) -

www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp_part/RespSource.html

Defensive Driving: Now More Than Ever

Winter conditions make it even more crucial to use all the caution we can when driving. Taking extra time—something few of us do comfortably—to plan and make the trip, to clear snow and ice off our car, or to stay far enough behind other vehicles is the best way to meet the challenges of driving on slick roads. And remember: don't pump the brakes if your vehicle has an antilock brake system (ABS).

safetyXchange - www.safetyxchange.org/hot-topics/emergency-preparedness-hot-topics/9-tips-safe-winter-driving

Roadtrip America (Rule 68: Don't "Pump" ABS Brakes) - www.roadtripamerica.com/DefensiveDriving/Rule68.htm

Photo Library

Need a simple shot of a hardhat or a machine guard for your Powerpoint program? The Center to Protect Workers' Rights has an online photo library of construction workers engaged in both good and bad practices. The hundreds of images in the Electronic Library of Construction Safety and Health (eLCOSH) can be used for no charge, and you can search the collection by hazard (chemical, musculoskeletal, physical, safety), by job site (commercial/industrial, demolition, etc.), or by trade (from asbestos/insulator to welder).

CPWR (eLCOSH images) - www.elcosh.org/images

Tri-State Occupational Health is a member of the WORKSAFE IOWA Occupational Medicine Associate Network, the only university-affiliated network of occupational health providers. WORKSAFE IOWA is an outreach program of the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health in the College of Public Health at the University of Iowa (www.public-health.uiowa.edu/worksafe).