



# SafetyMatters

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## 2016 Year in Review

2017

As you all know, this was my first construction season here as your EHS Director. It has been an enjoyable season, and I look forward to many more! As the “new guy” (and kinda old) I have seen a few things over the years. Here are my 2016 take-aways from the wide world of Gallagher:

### The Good:

- There are a whole bunch of fantastic people that work here.
- Everyone I have met takes pride in their work.
- We are all lucky enough to work with the newest tools and fleet of equipment I have seen in the industry.

### The Cold, Hard Facts:

- 12 Incidents when our operations damaged another person’s property.
- 8 incidents when we had our own property stolen.
- 17 “At Fault” auto accidents (we caused the accident)
- 14 First Aid Injuries to our employees
- 4 Recordable Injuries

### The Opportunities:

- Improving communication to solidify relationships.
- Exercise your Stop Work Authority (SWA)! Every employee that works here has the authority and expectation to stop work they

think is unsafe. Use your authority! **Get Awkward!!!!**

- ALL incidents must be reported immediately to Kevin Colwell. At 815-341-1728.
- **Make a push for ZERO incidents!**

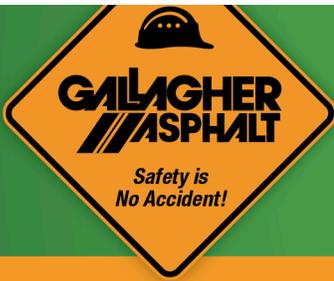
## 2017 Objectives

So what do we do to continue to grow and build on our 2016 successes? Two words: BUILD RELATIONSHIPS! At the end of the day the work always gets done, but those crews with the best RELATIONSHIPS on their team consistently produce the safest work records and highest quality product. Why is that? Because without interacting effectively with other people, we are not effective. When it all dilutes down, the key to healthy relationship lies in effective COMMUNICATION. This gets everyone on the same page and working toward a common team goal. Think about a winning sports team: you will never see their coach say, “just go out there and try really hard.”



There is always a huddle to discuss the gameplan, and that plan is communicated clearly to the team. So.....How do **we** communicate more effectively?

1. Use technology when appropriate. All of our crews have Ipads available. Let’s start using them for our huddles and toolbox talks!



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2. Reinforce. Make sure you deliver a clear message and reinforce the desired behavior of the person you communicated it to.
3. Chain of Command. Establish clear reporting lines and communication in your crew.
4. Clear and concise. Avoid slang/jargon, keep communication simple.
5. Training. Make sure new employees know their work task, how to perform it, and who to ask if they have questions.
6. Encourage feedback. Sometimes all of the answers to the challenges of your work day are right there in your crew.
7. **GET AWKWARD!** Intervene when you see somebody doing something that is unsafe!

familiar with maps/directions, let the party expecting you know your approximate time of arrival.

- *Practice Cold Weather Driving!*
  - During daylight, practice driving on snow/ice slowly in an empty parking lot.
  - Steer into a skid.
  - Know what your brakes will do
  - Don't idle for a long time with the windows up, or in an enclosed space.

## Winter Driving Safety



*Maintain your car:* Check battery, tire tread, windshield wipers, keep your windows clear and free of snow and ice.

*Have on Hand:* Flashlight, jumper cables, kitty litter, shovel, snow brush, cell phone.

*Stalled?:* Stay with your car, don't exert, run your car just long enough to stay warm.

*Plan your Route:* Allow plenty of time, be

## 2017 Safety Kickoff Day!



For the 2017 season we will have two kickoff meetings. There will be the **annual kickoff meeting which is tentatively scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>**, and a **Safety kickoff meeting which is tentatively scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>**. When the dates are solidified you will be the first to know. Enjoy the rest of the mild winter (so far)!