

STANDING DOWN FOR FALL SAFETY IN 2021

Ideas for Virtual or Physically Distanced Stand-Down Events

May 3-7, 2021 is the 8th annual [National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction](#) – an opportunity to pause work on jobsites and talk about fall safety with crews, large and small. Below are several ideas for holding an event with your employees, virtually or in-person.

If you are meeting in-person, be sure to follow the most [recent CDC guidelines](#), [guidelines for the construction industry](#), and all local and state public health guidelines to protect yourself and others from the spread of COVID-19. **Always maintain a safe physical distance of at least 6 feet and wear face coverings.**

1. Host or Attend a Virtual Event...

OPTION #1 – Use Zoom, Microsoft Teams, or another online platform to hold a meeting to review fall safety basics, conduct training, remind employees of policies for fall prevention and protection, or walk through planning tools such as [the fall prevention plan](#).

OPTION #2 – [Attend a live webinar](#). OSHA, NIOSH, and CPWR will host the [Official Kick-off for the 2021 Stand-Down](#) on Monday, May 3rd, followed by a [Spanish-language Kick-off webinar](#) on Tuesday, May 4th. Additional events that are free and open to the public are listed on OSHA's [Stand-Down calendar](#).

OPTION #3 – Hold a virtual meeting using an online platform to watch [an on-demand webinar or other video](#), such as new pre-recorded webinars about how to join the Stand-Down, assess harness fit, or plan for fall rescue. Use some time at the end for a live discussion.

2. Create or Revise Your Written Fall Protection and Rescue Plan...

Fall prevention starts with comprehensive planning. Do you have a written fall protection and rescue plan? If so, can it be improved? Preliminary results from [CPWR's Falls Experience Survey](#) indicate that a lack of planning is a key root cause of falls. Use [this generic template](#) to create a fall protection and rescue plan. For small employers or those just beginning to plan for falls, [click here for a shorter, simpler plan](#) (both templates are [available in Spanish](#)).

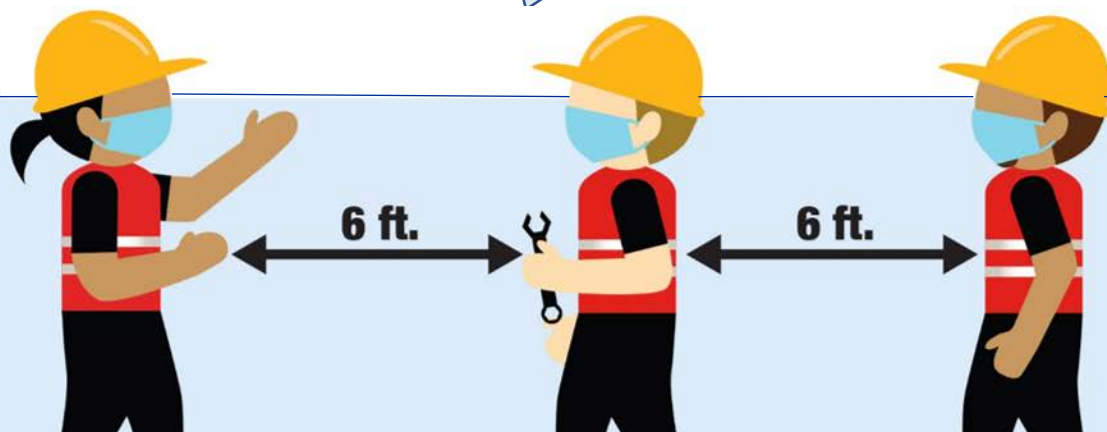
3. Conduct a Toolbox Talk or Fall Protection Demo...

You can still do in-person activities such as conducting a [toolbox talk](#), safety presentation, or fall protection demo. Just make sure workers are **at least 6 feet apart and wearing face coverings**.



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4. Inspect Equipment and Revisit Job Hazard Analyses...

Use this week as an opportunity to inspect all equipment, tag and remove any equipment that is damaged or broken, and follow your company's expectations for daily pre-shift safety checks. Make sure workers know your company's procedures for inspecting, tagging, and removing equipment and confirm that managers are providing sufficient time for workers to perform these daily duties.



Revisit your Job Hazard Analyses (JHAs) and other safety check procedures at your worksite. Ensure a **competent person** has identified hazards and their solutions. Discuss your findings with workers to ensure the best solutions are being used to prevent falls. If you do not currently have JHAs for your worksite, visit our planning page for a [Daily Job Site Checklist for Recognizing and Preventing Falls](#).



5. Share & Discuss Short Videos and Podcasts...

Not enough time for a meeting or event? Listen to or watch [short videos and podcasts](#) that are available in English and Spanish with your crew during a break or commute. Then talk about the information for a few minutes before a shift or during a break – but **remember to stay at least 6 feet apart and wear face coverings!**

Check out [CPWR's YouTube playlist](#) on falls including videos from NIOSH and other partners.

6. Hold a Fall Story Share...

Dedicate time – either virtually or in-person – for employees and managers to share stories about how falls have changed their lives and what they are doing now to prevent falls. Hearing a story from a co-worker or manager will communicate the serious harm caused by falls and help workers better understand the importance of preventing them. **Remember to stay 6 feet apart and wear face coverings.**



7. Participate in the Fall Experience Survey...

Have you or your employees experienced, witnessed, or investigated a fall? If so, **please fill out CPWR's Fall Experience Survey** (in [English](#) or [Spanish](#)) to help build knowledge about root causes of falls from heights. The survey takes 10-15 minutes to complete, is anonymous, and closes Friday, May 14, 2021.

8. Get Your Certificate of Participation...

After the Stand-Down ends, visit [OSHA's website](#) to receive your certificate of participation. Returning participants are encouraged to register for new certificates annually.