



Construction News & Views

Vol. 9 No. 8

May/June 2013

A message from SACA'S President

Everyone is looking for ways to maximize savings these days to boost the bottom line. I know I am. But one thing we do have to consider is price and cost. They're not the same thing and the difference must be analyzed to see how it affects our businesses.



Mike Rutherford

Walter E. Williams in his article Price Versus Cost explains it this way: "To prove that price and cost are not the same, consider the following. Suppose you live and work in New York City and routinely pay \$15 for a haircut. Imagine you were told that there's a barber in Boise, Idaho, who can give you the identical haircut for just \$5. Would you start going to the Boise barber? I'm betting you'd answer no because even though the price is cheaper, the cost is greater."

Taxes are a major component of the hidden costs on goods and services today. We also know those taxes are job and growth killers. Politicians continue their naïve

President continued on page 8

Rosemont Copper's Chief Geologist to speak at June GMM

Our GMM speaker for the June 19 meeting will be Jeff Cornoyer, the Chief Geologist for Rosemont Copper.

Jeff joined the Rosemont team in 2006 and has a degree in geological sciences from Arizona State University. He has been instrumental in drilling management and planning, drill core logging, geologic mapping, database management and resource modeling. Jeff is looking forward to helping the project progress into an operating mine.

According to the ASU study which was released by the Arizona Department of Mines and Minerals (DMMR), the proposed Rosemont Copper project will bring a "significant boost to local, state and national economies. The economic benefits will last even after the completion of the project." The study predicts the project will bring 400 direct jobs, 1,700 indirect jobs and will provide \$15 billion in local revenue over the life of the mine.

Don't miss this informative presentation.



Do you have the Irrigation Blues?

It's 4 a.m. Do you know if your irrigation system has sprung a leak?

Automatic irrigation systems can be terrific water and time savers, but they must be maintained and managed. If you don't pay attention to them, they can waste thousands of gallons of water. Yes, water is cheap, but wouldn't you rather spend money on a movie than on wasted water?

Water Wise

If you have an irrigation system, do yourself a favor and inspect it. If you want some help, a Water Wise specialist will visit your site for free (see below), or you can hire an irrigation inspector.

Irrigation inspections should be

done at least every six months. It can be quite rewarding because all sorts of undetected things can be found: emitters could have popped off, critters may have chewed the lines, filters might be clogged and end caps could be seeping.

Additionally, as you inspect your
Irrigation continued on page 4

2013 SACA**Board of Directors & Committee Chairs****Laurinda Wallace**, Office Administrator

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SACA June 2013 Calendar of Events**General Membership Meeting**

Location: PDS Country Club, St. Andrews Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ

Date: June 19, 2013 • Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Luncheon \$15 at door

June 19, 2013 will be our monthly membership meeting and we look forward to seeing you all there to support our organization and each other. What a great time to network with your fellow colleagues and mingle with friends. Find out what is happening in our great county. Our speaker will be Jeff Cornoyer with Rosemont Copper.

Upcoming SACA Events

June 19, 2013 • **Membership Meeting** • PDS CC – 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

June 25, 2013 • **Building Code Technical Committee** • Willcox - 9 a.m.

June 27, 2013 • **OSHA Hazcomm Training** • SV Chamber of Commerce – 9 a.m.

Government Meetings

Cochise Cty Board of Supervisors	Every Tues., 10 a.m.	County Buildings, Bisbee, AZ
Sierra Vista City Council	2nd & 4th Thurs., 5 p.m.	City Hall, 2nd Floor
Benson City Council	2nd & 4th Mon., 7 p.m.	City Hall
Bisbee City Council	1st & 3rd Tues., 7 p.m.	City Hall
Willcox City Council	1st & 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.	City Hall

ATTENTION**SACA MEMBERS!**

The SACA newsletter is looking for members' business stories to publish. Do you have a story about your business that you'd like other SACA members and the general public to hear? Please contact us at (520) 458-0488, or email us at admin@sacasceo.qwestbusiness.net

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Safety: GHS training deadline only eight months away

Deadlines have a way of sneaking up on people, so it's important that employers in the U.S. don't lose track of the date – Dec. 1, 2013.

That's the deadline for training workers on the new label elements and safety data sheet (SDS) format of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)—a worldwide system of harmonizing hazard classification criteria and chemical hazard communication elements.

“The training on the new label elements should include the pictograms, signal words (danger or warning), hazard statements (for example, fatal if inhaled) and precautionary statements (for example, do not spray on open flame). For the train-

ing on pictograms, for example, topics covered should explain such things as what they are, what they look like, what hazards they represent and where the employee will see them,” an OSHA spokesperson told *Safe Supervisor*.

Training on the Safe Data Sheet format should include a review of these 16 sections and the type of information that should be included in each section:

- identification,
- hazard(s) identification,
- composition/information on ingredients,
- first-aid measures,

The deadline for training workers is December 1, 2013

- firefighting measures,
- accidental release measures,
- handling and storage,
- exposure controls/personal protection,
- physical and chemical properties,
- stability and reactivity,
- toxicological information,
- ecological information,
- disposal considerations,
- transport information,
- regulatory information, and
- other information, including date of preparation or last revision.

OSHA estimates that about five mil-

lion US workplaces with some 43 million workers who potentially could be exposed to hazardous chemicals will be affected by the revised Hazard Communication Standard (HCS).

OSHA expects modifications to its HCS will result in increased safety and health for affected employees and will reduce the number of incidents, fatalities, injuries and illnesses associated with hazardous chemicals.

The GHS revisions to the HSC relating to labeling and safety data sheets will enable workers exposed to workplace chemicals to more quickly obtain and more easily understand information about the hazards associated with those chemicals, according to OSHA.



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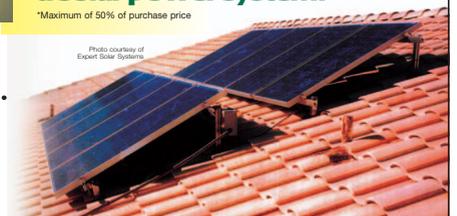
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Bob Stroxtile of Buena Project Graduation receives a donation presented by Wayne Gregan on behalf of SACA at the April general membership meeting.

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Irrigation continued from page 1

system, you can “grow” your system. As plants grow, irrigation systems should “grow” too. For new plants, emitters should be put close to the plant base. As the plant grows, the emitters should be moved to the drip line (the area just underneath the edges of the branches.) Watering at the base of a plant can rot it. Roots pick up water at their ends, not where they branch off of the trunk. The other advantage to moving the emitters out from under a plant is that you can see if they are working or not. It is another waste of money if a plant dies because the emitter clogged and you didn’t know it was slowly dying of thirst.

Finally, after you have done your inspection, draw a schematic so you can refer to it if you need to dig in the yard (repairing a broken irrigation line can ruin your day). If you sell your home the new owners will be very appreciative of the information too.

Part of having an irrigation system is to know about your watering schedule. Are you watering too much or too little? Do you know how to schedule your automatic controller?

Irrigations should be scheduled to water during the early morning hours when the air is still and cool. For most people however, the system will turn on when we all are in REM deep sleep. When awake, all looks well, but little do we know if Old Faithful erupted in the yard from a missing emitter or broken main line.

Do you know how to schedule your controller, and do you know

what your watering schedule is? Understandably, irrigation controllers can be confusing. But the more you reschedule it according to our five seasons (cool spring, dry spring, wet summer, fall and winter) the more familiar it will be to you. If you don’t have a manual, they are available on-line. After you print it out, keep it handy so you can periodically refer to it.

What is a good watering schedule? The Water Wise website has an easy watering schedule (a link on the Landscaping page). Generally, moderate water use plants should be watered every two weeks during the hottest time of year. The key to spacing out waterings is to water to the root depth each time. That would be one foot deep for small plants, two feet deep for shrubs and three foot deep for trees – and no deeper. If the water goes deeper, there goes your movie money. How do you know how deep the water has gone? Stick a metal rod into the ground. When it reaches dry soil it will stop.

Add a top-layer of three-inch layer of rock or bark mulch (the City of Sierra Vista compost facility sells great bark mulch for \$8 a truck load) and your money, er, water will stay in the ground for a healthy and happy landscape.

For more information on watering or to schedule a free on-site visit, contact Water Wise at 458-8278 ext. 2150 or waterwise.arizona.edu. Water Wise is a University of Arizona Cochise County Cooperative Extension program whose Partners are Cochise County, the City of Sierra Vista, Ft. Huachuca, the Upper San Pedro Partnership, and Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative.

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How to Recognize and Treat Heat Illnesses

Heat is nothing to take lightly, as it can cause serious illnesses, including death.

Here are the definitions and symptoms of the major heat-related illnesses:



Heat Stroke – is the most serious and is potentially fatal. During heat stroke, the body's temperature rises to critical levels, recognizable by hot, dry skin and lack of sweating, confusion, seizures, and loss of consciousness. **If this should happen, call 911 immediately**, as this is a life threatening emergency. Move the person to a cool, shaded area and remove outer clothing. Wet the person with cold water and cover with wet clothing or ice to help speed cooling.

Heat Exhaustion – is not as serious as heat stroke but still must be taken seriously. It can be recognized by increased body temperature, headache, nausea, dizziness, and elevated body temperature. A person suffering from heat exhaustion should be removed from the hot area and given liquids to drink. Remove unnecessary clothing such as shoes and socks and cool with cold compresses.

Heat Cramps – are muscle cramps that can be the result of physical labor in hot environments. It is caused by the body's loss of water and salts while sweating. If you have signs of heat cramps, have a snack and replenish your fluids by drinking water and avoiding salt tablets. Seek medical treatment if you are on a low sodium diet or your cramps last more than an hour.

Heat Rash – is the appearance of what appear to be pimples or small blisters after prolonged sweating. It often appears on the neck, chest and in the joint creases (back of knee, inside of elbow). When heat rash appears, try to keep the area dry. Powders can be used to stop the discomfort of the rash but ointments and creams should be avoided.

Catch it!

Did you know that a 4,500 square foot lot will receive 2,880 gallons in a one inch rain? Surprisingly despite the dry climate, rain is abundant. To harvest this abundance, go play in the mud.

Remember as a kid you used to make dams and ponds in the sandbox to capture water and stop erosion? Now as an adult, you can use those same principles on your property. Who knew that the kindergarten sandbox course would come in handy someday!

To wet your appetite (sic pun intended) for catching rain in your yard, here are some passive water harvesting principles.

Many homes are built at the bottom of a slope and during heavy storms water can flood patios and enter back doors. Often the solution is to build a small courtyard wall as a barrier and let the water run around it and out into the street. At the same time irrigation water is turned on to water the plants the stormwater just flowed past.

A better solution with multiple benefits is to slow, spread and soak in the stormwater. Slow the stormwater flow as far upslope as possible, spread out the water, and encourage it to soak in around plants as it moves downslope. With this method it is often possible to stop stormwater from even getting close to where flooding is a problem.

Spread the flow by making small barriers using branch trimmings,

Water Wise

earthen berms, straw bales or railroad ties. Multiple small barriers can detain small amounts of slow flowing water allowing it to soak into the soil. More moisture encourages plant growth which also slows stormwater, holds soil and reduces erosion, and roots help turn hard dirt into a sponge for soaking up water.

This principle can also be used on small lots. Take a walk around your property and look where water originates. Often downspouts contribute to water flow problems or just empty onto sidewalks, the driveway or out into the street. Redirect downspouts away from building foundations and into the landscape to reduce irrigation water.

Gutters are not always needed to harvest rainwater. Look where roof runoff falls and create dry streambeds to collect the water and meander it through the landscape.

Concentrate small rainfalls into puddles around your plants. Make shallow basins in-between plants (remember that roots spread out more than they are deep) so plants can share the collected water.

Lastly, put a mulch layer (preferably three inches of bark) over any area that receives water. In our dry

Catch it continued on page 6

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Catch It continued from page 5
climate more water evaporates than soaks into the ground. A deep bark mulch layer will keep evaporation down, and as the bark disintegrates will add nutrients to the soil and increase soil porosity. Hint: if you don't know about Sierra Vista's compost facility that sells bark mulch for \$8 per truckload, call the Public Works Department at 458-5775. It is a terrific resource.

Using simple principles to beneficially use stormwater is very satisfying. However, there is a warning - it has been proven that once you start harvesting the abundance of rain and stormwater, you can't stop!

For more information contact Water Wise at 458-8278 ext. 2141, waterwise.arizona.edu. Water Wise is a University of Arizona Cochise County Cooperative Extension program whose Partners are Cochise County, the City of Sierra Vista, Ft. Huachuca, the Upper San Pedro Partnership, and Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative.

Southeastern Arizona Contractors Association's position on building codes

The Southeastern Arizona Contractors Association (SACA) is an organization dedicated to serving the construction industry. Since its inception in 1977, the Association has provided training, marketing, and other services for its membership made up of licensed contractors, suppliers, and other businesses who support the construction industry. SACA fully supports the ethical conduct of licensed contractors.

We have representation on the Arizona Registrar of Contractors Advisory board, the City of Sierra Vista's Planning and Zoning commission, and our own Building Code Technical Committee continue that commitment to give guidance, input, and education in the development and implementation of building codes which are designed to protect owners, licensed contractors and the general public.

The current climate of invasive government regulation has brought attention to the complex building

codes, which some local governmental agencies desire to eliminate in part, or as a whole.

The results would give anyone absolute control over any construction; whether new, repair, or remodeling projects. SACA find this to be dangerous and backwards thinking in regards to building safety.

Building codes have been in existence for decades and are an absolute necessity for the safety of not only the current property owner, but more importantly for those who will ultimately purchase the structure in the future. Without codes, there is no standard, or guidance as to what constitutes a properly built home, commercial building, or any other structure.

While a homeowner may believe he or she has the knowledge to build, and/or maintain a safe home, history has demonstrated just the opposite.

There are other factors to consider for both the homeowner and the community when codes are not in place.

- Banks or lending institutions will

be less inclined to provide financing in a codeless environment.

- Insurance rates will rise due to a higher risk presented by no oversight.

- Property values will decrease, and in turn property taxes collected will decrease.

- First responders will face a greater risk when called to protect our community.

SACA supports a commonsense approach to building codes and encourages all jurisdictions to implement and enforce a building code issued by the International Code Council (no earlier than the 2003 version).

Signed by
all SACA Board Members



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High Temps + Humidity = Heat Hazards

You're working outside and the thermometer says it's only 88° F, so why does it feel like it's over 100? If the humidity is high in your part of the country, you are probably experiencing the "heat index," which is what happens when heat and humidity collide.

Before you head outdoors to work or enjoy some summer recreation, check the heat index in addition to the thermometer. This information will help you take precautions that will remind you to stay hydrated and to take breaks in the shade periodically.

NOAA's National Weather Service

Heat Index
Temperature (°F)

	80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100	102	104	106	108	110
40	80	81	83	85	88	91	94	97	101	105	109	114	119	124	130	136
45	80	82	84	87	89	93	96	100	104	109	114	119	124	130	137	
50	81	83	85	88	91	95	99	103	108	113	118	124	131	137		
55	81	84	86	89	93	97	101	106	112	117	124	130	137			
60	82	84	88	91	95	100	105	110	116	123	129	137				
65	82	85	89	93	98	103	108	114	121	128	136					
70	83	86	90	95	100	105	112	119	126	134						
75	84	88	92	97	103	109	116	124	132							
80	84	89	94	100	106	113	121	129								
85	85	90	96	102	110	117	126	135								
90	86	91	98	105	113	122	131									
95	86	93	100	108	117	127										
100	87	95	103	112	121	132										

Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure or Strenuous Activity

Caution Extreme Caution Danger Extreme Danger

NOAA's heat alert procedures are based mainly on Heat Index Values. The Heat Index, sometimes referred to as the apparent temperature is given in degrees Fahrenheit. The Heat Index is a measure of how hot it really feels when relative humidity is factored with the actual air temperature. To find the Heat Index temperature, look at the Heat Index chart above. As an example, if the air temperature is 96°F and the relative humidity is 65%, the heat index--how hot it feels--is 121°F. The Weather Service will initiate alert procedures when the Heat Index is expected to exceed 105°-110°F (depending on local climate) for at least two consecutive days.

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Create a Safety-First Culture

A construction company recognized for its safety program shares the practices that made them successful

Written by: Tony Roussey
Published at
constructionbusinessowner.com

Creating a culture of safety should be the highest priority and the moral obligation of every individual in the construction industry, from the CEO or president to the newly hired employee sweeping the floors. As business owners, you must lead the effort to create a culture that is committed to the safety of your workforce. Although we are in a dangerous and high-risk industry where people can be injured even in the most safety-conscious companies, the risk of injury increases every time you do not prepare, educate or monitor employees' safety practices.

Hire Character First

Achieving safety success starts with hiring individuals who possess the highest regard for safety, quality and professionalism. Most companies believe the systems or programs they have implemented lead to success, but the finest safety systems will be useless if they are not followed by dedicated employees. Hire character before skill every time. When interviewing potential employees, look for clues that they possess a high

level of awareness of safety issues, and watch your safety record improve dramatically. You can teach a skill, but you cannot teach attitude and commitment.

Communicate, Educate and Celebrate

Having a well-trained workforce requires effective communication. A monthly, company-wide safety meeting is a great opportunity to educate your employees about safe practices and behavior on the jobsite. Involve your field and office managers, and invite them to present timely safety topics each month as a means to educate your teams. This enables employees to be aware of potential threats and correct procedures. Topic ideas may address safe procedures for masonry wall bracing, rigging, using hand and power tools, using personal protection equipment, etc.

Celebrate and reward employees for safe behavior. Two impactful ways to reward employees are through recognition and cash incentives. At company-wide safety meetings, a client testimonial is a good way to recognize an employee or crew. Also, reward those who have exhibited safe attitudes and safe building practices by allowing them to be included in games or draw-



ings for cash prizes. This generates excitement about working safely and boosts morale.

Monitor Numbers

Keeping a running total of “days since a lost-time injury,” “days since a recordable injury,” and “results of recent OSHA site reviews” is beneficial for creating momentum and buy-in for the goal of an accident-free and citation-free jobsite. Review these numbers at company meetings, and discuss the positive or negative impact they have on individuals and the company. When substantial milestone dates are reached, throw a party to reward employees for their dedication to safety. Invite community members, partners, subcontractors and clients to participate in celebrating safety with your team.

Dedicate Resources

Invest in your employees. If you take care of your employees and put them first, they will, in turn, treat clients well and make a positive impact on their jobsites. Assign an internal safety director and create a safety committee that accepts the responsibility to continuously look for ways to improve your safety program and foster safety awareness. Train supervi-

sors to hold detailed, weekly jobsite inspections and “toolbox talks” that are relative to the work being performed. Also, hiring a third party to audit jobsites is an excellent way to receive an outside perspective on the level of safety your organization is maintaining. By having an outside resource evaluate your employees and working conditions, you will receive unbiased feedback and fresh ideas to improve your safety program and aid in the company’s continued success. The cost of these practices is small compared to the costs related to injuries, lawsuits and fines.

Partner With OSHA

Yes, that’s correct. By utilizing the free services OSHA provides for site consultations, you can ensure a safe worksite and save your company from having to pay costly fines. Most of the time, individuals who are responsible for site safety, such as superintendents, either are too busy running the job or are not adequately trained to be a full-time safety auditor. By having your local OSHA education officer review your project at the beginning of its execution or at various stages of critical work, you will be rewarded in the long run by the value they can add.

President continued from page 1

perspective that people will continue spending even after more taxes are levied. Economists label it a “zero-elasticity vision of the world.” In reality, it’s more likely that politicians could care less about destroying jobs and growth. They want the increased tax revenue to fund their own spending habits.

While we may increase our prices to customers to cover the cost of doing business, we see business dropping off because customers are feeling the pinch just like we are. Do you want to pay an extra \$80 on a \$200 appliance repair; because the repair guy is trying to offset his taxes and make a little money? Probably not, the job is still a \$200 repair.

Unfortunately, taxes are a necessary evil to fund the “constitutionally mandated functions of the federal government,” Williams says. The Constitution gives Congress authority under Article 1, Section 8 to tax for the mandated functions. However, if they followed the Constitution, the rate would be 5 percent of the GDP rather than 20 percent of the GDP. So, the little guy must continue his fight against the ever-increasing tax burden and try to keep costs in line to stay in business. It’s a tightrope, that’s turned into a noose.

One of the main reasons small businesses fail is the fact that taxes have been overlooked or ignored and one day the tax man knocks on the door. Don’t let yourself fall into this situation.