Occupational Safety and Health Protection for Employees of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Executive Order 12196 and 29 CFR 1960 require the heads of Federal agencies to furnish to employees places and conditions of employment that are free from job safety and health hazards.

Responsibilities of Your agency

1. General Requirements
   The Chief will furnish NRCS employees places and conditions of employment that are free from on-the-job safety and health hazards.

2. OSHA Regulations
   NRCS will comply with applicable regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

3. Reporting Hazards
   NRCS will respond to employee reports of hazards in the workplace.

4. Workplace Inspections
   NRCS will insure that each workplace is inspected annually for hazardous conditions. NRCS will post Notices of Unsafe or Unhealthful Working Conditions found during the inspections for a minimum of three working days, or until the hazard is corrected, whichever is later.

5. Correction of Unsafe Conditions
   NRCS will take prompt action to assure that hazardous conditions are eliminated. Imminent danger conditions will be corrected immediately.

6. Safety and Protective Equipment
   NRCS will acquire, maintain and require use of appropriate protective and safety equipment.

7. Safety and Health Training
   NRCS will provide occupational safety and health training for employees.

8. Reporting Accidents, Injuries and Occupational Illnesses
   Supervisors must submit a supervisor’s report of accidental injury/illness for all work-related accidents, injuries or occupational illnesses experienced by employees under their supervision.

9. Safety and Health Committees
   NRCS will support any safety and health committees that are formed from management and employee representatives.

Employee Responsibilities

1. Compliance with Standards
   Employees shall comply with all OSHA and approved NRCS occupational safety and health standards, policies and directives.

2. Safety and Protective Equipment
   Employees shall use appropriate protective and safety equipment provided by NRCS.

Rights of Employees and Their Representatives

1. Participation in Safety and Health Program
   Employees and their representatives shall have the right to participate in the NRCS Safety and Health Program. Employees shall be authorized official time for these activities.

2. Access to Records and Documents
   Employees and their representatives shall have access to copies of applicable OSHA and other recognized standards and regulations; NRCS safety and health policies and directives; accident, injury and illness statistics of the NRCS.

3. Reporting Hazards
   Employees and their representatives shall have the right to report unsafe or unhealthful working conditions to appropriate officials and to request an inspection of the workplace. The name of the employee making the report will be kept confidential if requested.

4. Freedom from Fear of Reprisal
   Employees and their representatives are protected from restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal for exercising any of their rights under the NRCS Safety and Health Program.

Responsible Officials

The Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO) for NRCS is

Christina Turner, 732-537-6088

The Safety and Health Designee for this workplace is:

Timothy Williams
and may be contacted at

505-761-4485

(Telephone and location)

Further Information

This notice highlights the NRCS employee job safety and health program. More information about the NRCS program or its standards and procedures may be obtained from the workplace Safety and Health Designee.