



2011  
Meeting Dates:

March 2  
Alliance meeting

May 11  
Alliance meeting

August 17  
Alliance meeting

November 9  
Alliance meeting

### *Safety Thought:*

*“Open the door  
to safety:  
Awareness is  
the key!”*

*Author  
Unknown*



# Safety Alliance Updates

In Conjunction with the OSHA Alliance

## *OSHA Alliance News*

The Alliance consistent focus on safety awareness exemplifies our dedication to aid the outside industry employers and employees to achieve and maintain an “Injury Free and Healthy work place”. An Injury Free and Healthy work environment is not a catchy headline it’s an attitude, a conscious effort, an aspiration, and a noble commitment to one another and most importantly our families. To ensure that our pledges are guaranteed, the Alliance participants are firmly devoted to assist each employer and its employees achieve an incident free work place by establishing several goals for the program in 2011.

First goal, host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Southeast Regional Safety Stand Down. This stand down will be held on January 11, 2011

at the start of each shift and will conclude approximately 30 to 45 minutes thereafter. The topic for this event will be “Slips, Trips, and Falls”.

Second goal, continue to promote the Alliance through speaking and exhibit engagements. Promotion equals interest and by expressing the fundamental focus of our program to others it may enable them to elevate the safety awareness in their respective programs.

Third goal, continue to disseminate the quarterly newsletter. This avenue of correspondence keeps everyone informed of the Alliance activities, it is a very powerful tool that provides direct communication you. Some may dismiss this form of communication as old fashion or corny, but think about it, a newsletter delivers

information right to the heart of your business. We will continue to deliver the newsletter to you on a quarterly basis and hope that you will enjoy the information it contains.

As a final point, closing out 2010 is just as important as beginning 2011, so I will leave you with some popular New Year resolutions for you to consider as the year comes to an end.

1. Spend more quality time with family
2. Get fit
3. Lose weight
4. Quit smoking
5. Enjoy life more
6. Quit drinking
7. Debt reduction
8. Learn something new
9. Help others

### 2011 Safety Stand Down:

- **Date:** January 11, 2011
- **Topic:** “Slips, Trips, & Falls”
- **Target:** Southeast, Region IV
- **Focus:** Contributing Factors and What You Can Do To

## General Rules of Thumb Hunting Safety Tips:

- Treat every gun as if it were loaded. Watch the muzzle! Prepare to control the direction of the muzzle even if you stumble.
- Be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions and that you have only ammunition of the proper size for the gun you are carrying.
- Be sure of your target and what is beyond it before you pull the trigger; know identifying features of the game you hunt.
- Unload guns when not in use. Take down or have actions open. Guns should be carried in cases to the shooting area.
- Never point a gun at anything you don't want to shoot or kill. Do not play with a firearm.
- Never climb a tree or jump a ditch with a loaded gun. Never pull the gun toward you by the muzzle.
- Never shoot a bullet at flat, hard surfaces or water.
- Store guns and ammunition separately, beyond the reach of children and careless adults. Consider using trigger locks.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages and medications that cause drowsiness before or during use of a firearm.



## Safety Courses are available and highly recommended:

Most courses are offered in the late summer and early fall prior to the start of hunting seasons. Dedicated volunteer instructors are also dedicated hunters and prefer to be in the woods than in the classroom during hunting season. Some courses are also offered in the spring prior to spring turkey season. Volunteer instructors schedule each course. Some are completed in a weekend, while others may take several week nights and a day during the weekend to complete.

One of the most popular pieces of equipment used by deer hunters is a tree stand. Tree stands can be dangerous if they are used incorrectly or carelessly. Nationally, one in three hunting injuries involves a tree stand. Falls from tree stands can be caused by a variety of factors, including a weakness in the stand's structure and incorrect installation. Hunters also may fall asleep while on their stands. Tree stands can also be a factor in other hunting accidents, including injury from accidental firing of a loaded firearm while the hunter is climbing to the stand. To help prevent these accidents, follow these safety precautions:

### 44% of Hunting Accidents Are Tree Stand Accidents

- Never carry equipment with you while climbing. Use a haul line to raise or lower your gear. Make sure guns are unloaded and broad heads are covered prior to raising or lowering firearms or bows with a haul line.
- Since most accidents occur when hunters are climbing up or down a tree, always use a climbing belt. Always use a safety belt or harness when hunting from elevated tree stands. Study manufacturer's recommendations before using any equipment. Never use a rope to replace a safety belt.
- Check permanent tree stands every year before hunting from them, and replace any worn or weak lumber.
- Read, understand and follow the factory recommended practices and procedures when installing commercial stands. Inspect portable stands for loose nuts and bolts each time they are used.
- Choose only healthy, living trees when using climbing devices. Rough-barked trees such as oak are best. Do not use a tree that is rotten or has dead limbs.
- Never put all your weight on a single branch. Keep at least one hand and one foot on a secure place when reaching for the next hold.
- Climb higher than the stand and step down onto it. Climbing up onto it can dislodge it.
- Wear boots with non-skid soles, because steps or platforms can be slippery in rain, sleet or snow.
- Tell a dependable person where you're hunting and when you plan on returning. Map your whereabouts and leave a note at camp, at home or in your car so that you can be found.
- Don't fall asleep. This is a common cause of accidents. If you get drowsy, move your arms rapidly until you feel alert.
- Never wear a ring in any climbing situation. Rings can catch on tree limbs and equipment.
- As a precautionary measure, remove all logs, upturned and cutoff saplings, rocks and other obstructions on the ground below the tree stand.
- Use updated equipment. When used properly, newer tree stand equipment is solid, safe and secure. Older models of safety belts offer some protection, but newer safety harnesses offer more protection.



# OSHA Alliance News

## **Safety Alliance Updates**

**Southeastern Line Chapter, NECA 1015 Tyrone Road, Suite 310, Tyrone, GA 30290**

**Phone: 770.969.9209 / Fax: 770.969.8849**

**Email: [contacts@slcneca.org](mailto:contacts@slcneca.org)**

**Website: [www.slcneca.org](http://www.slcneca.org)**