

Illinois SHA Fact Sheet

Top 20 standards cited by IL OSHA during water/sewer department inspections in 2023-24

Walking Working Surfaces

1910.22(a)(1) Work areas are not in a clean, orderly, and sanitary condition.

Recommendation: *Develop and implement a schedule to keep work areas clean.*

Exits and Emergency Planning

1910.37(b)(2) Building exits are not marked.

Recommendation: *Identify all building exits with exit signs.*

Flammable Liquids

1910.106(g)(3)(iv)(d) Above ground fuel tanks are not protected from collision.

Recommendation: *Install barriers to protect tanks from being struck by a vehicle.*

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

1910.132(d)(2) Department has not performed a personal protective equipment (PPE) hazard assessment.

Recommendation: *Perform and certify a PPE hazard assessment using IL OSHA's sample PPE hazard assessment.*

1910.134(f)(2) No annual fit testing for employees designated to wear respirators.

Recommendation: *Perform annual fit testing.*

Safety Signs and Tags

1910.145(d)(10) Slow-moving vehicle signs are not installed on slow-moving vehicles that operate on public roads.

Recommendation: *Install slow moving vehicle signs on all slow-moving vehicles (25 mph or less).*

Permit-Required Confined Spaces (PRCS)

1910.146(c)(4) Employees enter permit spaces, but the employer does not have a written PRCS program.

Recommendation: *Eliminate PRCS entry or develop and implement a compliant written program for PRCS.*

1910.146(g)(1) The employer has not provided training for employees that enter PRCS.

Recommendation: *Eliminate PRCS entry or develop and provide a compliant PRCS training program.*

Lockout/Tagout (LOTO)

1910.147(c)(1) Employees service/maintain machines subject to LOTO without a LOTO program.

Recommendation: *Develop and implement a compliant LOTO program.*

1910.147(c)(7)(i) The employer has not provided LOTO training for employees.

Recommendation: *Develop and provide a compliant LOTO training program.*

Medical and First Aid

1910.151(c) Suitable eye wash facilities are not available when corrosive materials are present.

Recommendation: *Install and maintain a readily accessible ANSI Z358.1 compliant eye wash station.*

Fire Extinguishers

1910.157(e)(3) Fire extinguishers do not receive an annual maintenance check.

Recommendation: *Schedule annual maintenance and service for fire extinguishers with a licensed vendor.*

Machinery and Machine Guarding

1910.212(a)(1) Machines or parts of machines that present hazards to employees are not guarded.

Recommendation: *Regularly inspect machines to ensure guards are in place.*

Electrical

1910.303(g)(1) Building electrical equipment, such as electrical panels, are blocked.

Recommendation: *Designate off-limits storage areas around electrical equipment with conspicuous tape or paint.*

1910.305(g)(1)(iv) Extension cords are used as a substitute for fixed wiring.

Recommendation: *Use extension cords for temporary wiring only.*

Hazard Communication

1910.1200(e)(1) Employees use hazardous chemicals that exceed “household” quantities, but the employer has not developed, implemented, and maintained a hazard communication program.

Recommendation: *Identify all chemicals used in the workplace, properly dispose of chemicals no longer needed, and implement a hazard communication program. A variety of resources are available at [osha.gov/hazcom](https://www.osha.gov/hazcom).*

1910.1200(h)(1) Employees using hazardous chemicals that exceed “household” quantities have not been provided initial training on chemical hazards and/or when a new chemical is used.

Recommendation: *Provide employees with hazard communication training as part of initial onboarding training and provide periodic refresher training, especially when a new chemical is used.*

Safety Training and Education

1926.21(b)(2) Employees operating construction/heavy equipment do not receive instruction in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions.

Recommendation: *Ensure construction/heavy equipment operators receive training.*

General Duty Clause

820 ILCS 219/20(a) Department violated IL OSHA’s general duty clause that requires employers to provide employees with reasonable protection from hazards that cause or are likely to cause serious injury or death. This standard can be applied to many situations, but IL OSHA has issued several of these to water/sewer departments that do not provide reasonable protection to employees while using equipment hoists.

Recommendation: *Ensure hoists are periodically inspected and maintained per manufacturer’s recommendations.*

Recordkeeping

56 IL Admin Code Part 350.260(a) Department does not maintain injury and illness records.

Recommendation: *Use sample OSHA 300 injury and illness logs.*

Links: [Part 1910 General Industry Standards](#)

[Part 1926 Construction Standards](#)

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