

Porcelain Press

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Vaccination Awareness Month!

Are You Up to Date? Vaccinate!

People of all ages need to be reminded of the importance of immunization. August is the perfect time to remind family, friends, co-workers, and those in the community to catch up on their vaccinations. Parents are enrolling their children in school, students are entering college, and health care workers are preparing for the upcoming flu season.

Why Vaccinate?

Vaccines, used since the 1700s and are among the great public health successes. Vaccines serve as a protection from at least 14 different diseases that once were common in the United States. Despite the effectiveness of vaccines against potentially fatal illnesses, children and adults still die each year from these preventable diseases.

When to Vaccinate

Contact your physician for details, but remember that vaccines aren't just for children! College students must also check with their university for vaccination requirements before attending! (3K782)

2, 4, and 6 months: DPTP, meningitis
12 months: MMR
18 months: DPTP
4 to 6 years: DPTP, MMR
14 to 16 years: diphtheria, tetanus, polio
Adults at least every 10 years: diphtheria, tetanus

DPTP- pertussis, diphtheria, tetanus, polio
MMR - measles, mumps, rubella

Check the CDC Web site on vaccinations for more information <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/>

Labor Day – September 1

Thanks to the hard work of unions and laborers in the past we now enjoy a higher standard of living and safer workplaces.

The late 1800's were a vital time for unions and the labor movement. Labor Day was a day to celebrate progress in worker rights, air grievances and hold protests, and develop strategies for better working conditions and salaries. The idea spread, and 23 states were already recognizing the holiday when Congress passed the 1894 act making the first Monday of September a national holiday.

The Industrial Revolution was a dangerous time as small workshops became factories of thousands. Injuries were common, and Legislation favoring corporations was eventually changed after decades of union organizing, publicizing, and protesting.

Thanks to the struggles of brave men and women, the culture evolved to stress both worker and management responsibility for work safety. (39198)

Even with all the progress in workplace safety, much work remains. Annual U.S. worker occupational fatalities number nearly 6,000. (3C429)

So while you safely enjoy the last few days of summer, take a moment to remember those who made your workplace better and safer, and how you might also be able to contribute.

The VPP is dedicated to helping ensure a safe workplace for all staff. To learn more about how you can make your workplace safer, visit the VPP website <http://www.pnl.gov/vpp/>.

For Your Safety!

Remember – Safety showers are important equipment to ensure rapid treatment from chemical splashes, spills, and other workspace accidents

- **Keep routes to showers free from obstructions!**
- **Keep areas under the shower clear for use!**

The Porcelain Press is sponsored by the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Steering Committee.

Comments on this issue should be addressed to the editor, 376-4088.

If your payroll number is listed in this issue, you've just won a VPP Prize! Contact Rob Boy, <robert.boy@pnl.gov> to redeem your prize!

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