



2nd Quarter 2020

1st Quarter 2020 Safety Raffle Winners!

All participants in the Safety Program get a chance to win a \$50 Walmart gift card

Bloomington: Zhateya Swanigan

Effingham: Trevor Opfer

Urbana: Jose Antonio Dorado

DEC/INDY: Shawn Sutton (DEC)

1st Quarter 2020 Director's Choice Award goes to....

Bruce Prothe—URB

Best idea of all: Discontinue use of the current blue toilet cleaner at most locations. As noted in the latest safety newsletter, it can cause blindness in 8 seconds. Its use may be needed at locations with very high mineral content in water (Mahomet Public Works comes to mind), but there must be safer products that will do the job at other locations. I have at home a bottle of Spartan NABC, for example, which has a warning stating that it may cause "Moderate Eye Irritation." That's better than the "Irreversible eye damage" warned of on the blue cleaner we use!

Stairwell Cleaning N' Safety

Cleaning the stairs is an important part of the job. The stairs are a public area and, thus, highly visible to the customer. We need to clean the handrails, dust all edges and trim, and vacuum or mop the treads. Cleaning a stairwell can present hazards if you are not careful. Keep the following tips in mind when cleaning the stairs:



- ♦ Stairwells should always be free and clear of obstruction. Never leave tools or equipment (not even a spray bottle) on stairs, as others using the stairs would not expect something to be on the stairs and could trip and fall.
- ♦ When vacuuming the stairs, start at the bottom of the stairs and work your way up. When mopping, start at the top and work your way down.
- ♦ Use handrails and walk (don't run) when going up or down stairs.
- ♦ Minimize distractions. Be alert and aware of your surroundings.
 - ♦ Always know where the last step is, so you don't fall.
 - ♦ Always put up a "Caution: Wet Floor" sign when mopping stairs.



Emergency Preparedness

Tornadoes & Severe Thunderstorms

According to the National Weather Service, Illinois is ranked 6th in the U.S. for the most tornadoes and has more than 850 reports of wind damage and large hail, on average, every year from severe thunderstorms.

A “WATCH” means severe weather is possible. A “WARNING” will be accompanied by sirens in case of a tornado. This means severe weather has been sighted, and you should take shelter immediately.

Find an underground area, such as a basement or storm cellar. If not available, find a small interior room or hallway on the lowest floor possible. Stay in the center of the room, and avoid corners because they attract debris.

AVOID auditoriums, cafeterias and gymnasiums that have flat, wide-span roofs.

AFTER, take a look around and inspect for damage to the building or property. Check in with your supervisor following any weather event that requires you to take shelter.

Fires in the Workplace

There is always a risk of fire in the workplace, no matter what the time of year. As an ESS employee you should be familiar with the general safety rules, helping us prevent fires.

Good housekeeping, and routine equipment maintenance are important preventative measures. Additionally, you should be careful to keep flammable liquids in their proper closed containers, and away from ignition sources.

In case of a fire, you should familiarize yourself with all the evacuation routes from your building. If you are ever at work and see a fire or the alarm sounds, call 9-1-1 and evacuate immediately.

DO NOT attempt to put the fire out yourself. You need to wait until the fire department has cleared the building before re-entering.

Other Hazards

Human Blood, bodily fluids and spilled chemicals are all potential threats to your safety. Blood can contain blood borne pathogens: disease causing infectious microorganisms including hepatitis and HIV. Do not attempt to clean up these materials without appropriate personal protective equipment.



To clean up human blood or bodily fluids, contact your supervisor for a blood borne pathogens spill kit. For chemical spills, consult the Safety Data Sheet. Hazardous chemicals should be cleaned up with a spill containment kit (contact your supervisor). Non-hazardous chemicals can generally be disposed of by flushing them down a sanitary drain. Contact your supervisor with any questions.





Casting Call for “Safe Trash Removal”



Scene 1 : **Never** put your hands inside a trash container. This includes a waste basket or Brute barrel. If you need to push down the trash as it fills up, use the bottom of a waste basket. **Never**, use your hands or vacuum.



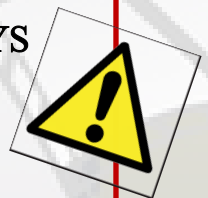
Scene 2: **Always** keep your Brute barrel with you when collecting trash. Leaving the barrel in the hall or doorway and carrying each trash can to the barrel and back is inefficient, but also increases your risk of injury by carrying the trash more than you have to.

Scene 3: **Avoid** filling your barrel so full that you have trouble removing the liner or carrying the bag after you remove it. Tie off bags when half full, when you know they are heavy and put a second bag on top of the first. Test weight of each load before lifting and don't attempt more than you can handle. Get help if it's too heavy or awkward.



Scene 4: Follow the safe lifting procedures when lifting a load of trash. Stand with feet slightly apart, assume squatting position with your knees bent, and tuck your chin in. Grasp the load with both hands. Stand up slowly, not abruptly, keeping your back straight when lifting or lowering garbage cans and bags. Lift with your legs not your back. **Always AVOID TWISTING.** When carrying a full trash bag to the dumpster, **always** hold it away from your person to avoid contact with any sharp objects that may be in with the trash.

Scene 5: **NEVER** try to toss the trash in the bin while holding the lid open. **ALWAYS** 1) place the bag on the ground close to the bin; 2) open the bin; 3) pick up the bag with both hands.



ESS's policy on trash removal is to only throw away trash that is already in a waste can or that is marked as trash. (It can be marked “Trash”, “Please Discard” or something similar.) If a box or other items are near a trash can (or even on top of a trash can) and are not labeled as trash, do not throw them away.

When in doubt....DON'T throw out!



Four ways to submit: **1.** Go to the www.essclean.com and go to Safety Program then at the bottom of the left column of Safety Newsletters is a button for the 2020 2nd Quarter Safety Quiz that can be completed online. **2.** Email the answers or take a photo of the completed form below and email to Safety@essclean.com. Please include your name, employee number and Area Manager's name in the email. **3.** Bring it to the office or put it in the outside drop box. **4.** Mail it to ESS Clean, Inc. Attn: Safety • PO Box 17067 • Urbana, IL 61803.

Send submissions no later than Sunday, March 29th before midnight

SAFETY QUIZ

Complete and submit the Safety Quiz below by the deadline to win one of four \$50 Walmart gift cards.

Name: _____

Employee #: _____ Area Manager: _____

1. True or False. ESS's Policy on trash removal is when in doubt Don't throw out.
2. When cleaning stairwells NEVER:
 - A. Leave tools or equipment on stairs.
 - B. Use "Caution: Wet Floor" signs.
 - C. When vacuuming start at bottom.
 - D. When moping start at top.
 - E. A only.
 - F. All of the Above.
3. When dealing with Trash ALWAYS:
 - A. Inspect bag for any sharp or protruding objects
 - B. Compact your trash with hand to make room for more.
 - C. Check load weight and get help if too heavy.
 - D. All of the above.
 - E. Both A and C.
4. True or False. Always keep your Brute barrel with you when you are collecting trash.
5. How do you handle Tornadoes & Severe Thunderstorms?
 - A. Keep working, we always get the job done.
 - B. In a "WARNING" take cover.
 - C. Avoid auditoriums, cafeterias & gymnasiums.
 - D. All of the Above.
 - E. B and C.

SAFETY SHARE

Submit a SAFETY SHARE by the deadline for the chance to win the Manager's Choice Award, a \$50 Walmart gift card.

- New information you learned in this newsletter and how you implemented it on the job;
- A potentially unsafe act you witnessed or experienced and how you corrected it; or
- Suggest a way ESS might improve procedures or training on safety issues.

Name: _____

Employee #: _____

Area Manager: _____