STEEP CREEK

SAFETY BULLETIN #4

April 15, 2024

Work Zone Safety Awareness

Work Zone Safety



- ★ Roadway construction workers are 6 times more likely to be injured or killed on the job compared to other professions.
- ★ In 2021, Arkansas recorded a total of 2,594 work zone crashes. Of those work zone crashes, there were **22 fatalities** and 54 serious injuries. - **This equates to over 216 work zone crashes per month with at least 1-2 containing a fatality - just for Arkansas!**

Ways to protect yourself and team members

- ★ Do not start construction activities or operate machinery without installing the proper advance warning signs, traffic control devices, and wearing all PPE (high visibility safety vests/apparel at a minimum).
- ★ Do not walk onto or drive equipment into active traffic lanes without a spotter or flagger. Be aware of jobsite equipment, as well as vehicles entering and exiting the work site.
- ★ Do not use electronics while flagging (other than for coordinating traffic movements with other flaggers).
- ★ Cell phones and electronic devices are big distractions. They reduce work accuracy and negatively impact reaction times. If a call or text must be sent while on the job site, establish an anchor point (vehicle, structure, equipment) to put your hand or arm on while you use the phone. This keeps you from pacing while talking or texting.
- ★ Get adequate rest so you are not drowsy or distracted. Studies show that working while extremely tired and sleepy can be as dangerous as working while intoxicated.
- ★ Know your area and be extra alert during high traffic - early mornings, after school and/or work

Discussion Point:

- ★ Review the chart below. Do these statistics change your perspective about wearing vests & hard hats?

