STEEP CREEK

SAFETY BULLETIN #4

April 20, 2026

Work Zone Safety Awareness

Work Zone Safety

- ★ In 2024, Arkansas recorded **1,648 work zone crashes**, including **54 serious injuries.**
- ★ That averages to **over 137 crashes per month**, with **4–5 involving serious or fatal injuries—**and that's just in Arkansas.



Ways to protect yourself and team members

- ★ Set up proper safety controls before starting work
  - ○ Advance warning signs; Traffic control devices
  - ○ Proper PPE (at a minimum high-visibility safety apparel)
- ★ Stay out of active traffic lanes
  - ○ Never walk or drive equipment into traffic without a **spotter or flagger**
  - ○ Stay alert to both jobsite equipment and vehicles entering/exiting the work zone
- ★ Eliminate distractions while working
  - ○ Do not use electronic devices while flagging (except for traffic coordination)
  - ○ Cell phones reduce accuracy and slow reaction time
- ★ If you must use a phone, do it safely
  - ○ Use an anchor point (vehicle, structure, or stationary equipment)
  - ○ This prevents pacing and keeps you aware of your surroundings
- ★ Manage fatigue
  - ○ Get adequate rest before work
  - ○ Extreme fatigue can impair performance similarly to intoxication
- ★ Be extra alert during high-traffic times
  - ○ Early mornings; After school hours; End of the workday

Discussion Point:

- ★ Review the ArDOT & Arkansas State Police crash stats below.
  - ○ Does this change your perspective about wearing PPE vests & hard hats?
  - ○ Are there other ways to increase work zone safety at this jobsite?
  - ○ Does every team member have high visibility apparel - safety vest, shirt, jacket, hard hat?



