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President's Message:

In response to the recent COVID-19 pandemic, the New Mexico (NM) American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) has canceled the 2020 Professional Development Conference (PDC). We are in the process of issuing refunds to those who have already registered as attendees or vendors. At this point, we are uncertain if the NM ASSP 2020

PDC will be rescheduled for a later date this year.

As important members of our NM Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) community, we would like to emphasize how important you are to us.

As additional information on the COVID-19 pandemic is made available, we encourage you to

follow guidance set forth by the [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), [National Institute of Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#), [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), [NM Department of State](#), along with the direction from your individual employers.

You are our best asset and together we can take steps to keep our communities and families safe.



Volunteer and Be Part of ASSP/NM Chapter – You Won't Regret It!

We as Safety Professionals are in this profession because we have a passion to help people. We get a lot of satisfaction ensuring that each and every day we are adding value to the company for which we work for by keeping its most valuable asset safe – its personnel. We get to see amazing work and the opportunity to provide input and solutions to complex problems. Where can you meet other safety professionals in various industries and feel good about helping fellow colleagues...the ASSP New Mexico Chapter.

We have all heard "it's not what you know, it's who you know". I can attest that being part of the ASSP/New Mexico Chapter organization drives home this saying. Not only does this organization provide opportunities for one to sharpen professional leadership skills, but also an avenue to network with other safety professionals in various industry sectors, gaining different perspectives on their approaches to safety, and making

some great friends along the way. We all get tunnel vision on how our own workplace implements safety policy, and it's refreshing to hear other approaches and thoughts to the safety philosophy. The monthly technical meetings provide those opportunities to gain more insight on various subjects. The New Mexico Chapter supports the Research Challenge, aka Science Fair, which is another great opportunity for us to support the community and get the chance to talk with students about the safety profession.

It is so satisfying to hear that someone took something useful away by attending our professional development conference (PDC), or from our networking activities, or found a new or different job where they can utilize their skills. Setting up these activities to include the PDC and the meetings we have throughout the year takes time and energy. We as a Chapter try our best to deliver the most we can all of the time and

unfortunately, we see few new faces every year stepping up to make this Chapter the best it can be. So, that is why I am asking you to consider volunteering and making a difference. We need more volunteers to bring new ideas and an enthusiastic attitude to make the Chapter even better. You may not have time to serve as a board member due to the time commitment – I get it, the Chapter gets it. How about volunteering for a smaller committee or leading an activity for the Chapter? We are all keenly aware that your personal time is important to you, so we make the most of that time during these meetings and planning sessions, because we know this is a volunteer organization.

Consider being part of the New Mexico Chapter, and ask any of the Board Members how you help with volunteering. We can all make this a better organization and strengthen the benefits of being an ASSP New Mexico Chapter member.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<https://nm.assp.org/>

for job postings and more!

Healthy Habits Make Everyday Sense

Following these *everyday guidelines from the World Health Organization* will safeguard your health and that of other attendees at any public event.

- Wash your hands frequently -- Regularly clean your hands using soap and warm water for 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer in-between hand washings and after touching common surfaces such as doorknobs, railings, and tables.
- Practice good respiratory hygiene -- When coughing or sneezing, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your bent elbow. Dispose of used tissues immediately. If you inadvertently cough
- or sneeze into your hands, wash your hands right away. Don't share food, utensils, cups, or anything else that might contain germs.
- Maintain social distancing -- Stay at least 3 feet away from anyone who is coughing or sneezing. This helps prevent exposure to illness.
- Avoid touching your face -- Hands touch many common surfaces and can easily transfer a virus to your eyes, nose, or mouth. That is a typical way people get sick.
- Stay home when feeling ill -- If you have a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, stay home

and seek medical care early. It is best to call your healthcare provider in advance so they can direct you to the proper healthcare facility.

Additional resources for the COVID-19 pandemic can be found at the following links:

OSHA: Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19

OSHA: Temporary Enforcement Guidance: Healthcare Respiratory Protection Fit-Testing

OSHA: Applicable standards (including record keeping guidance) The Safety Professional's Role in Planning for a Pandemic
CDC: Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)
WHO: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak

2020 Technical Meeting Schedule

As we enter this new year and decade, we will continue to offer a rotating technical meeting schedule to help accommodate our members' dynamic and changing schedule needs.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming technical meeting dates & locations.

- May 14, 2020 - Lunch @ Furr's Fresh Buffet (2004 Wyoming Blvd NE)
- June 11, 2020 - Happy Hour @ Rio Bravo

Brewing Co. Barrel Room (1912 2nd St NW)

- July Officer Induction Meeting - Date / Location TBD

Stay tuned for more information on technical speakers.

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Name

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City