

# Toolbox Talk:Eye Safety

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# EYE INJURIES: some facts ...



• **About 1000 work-related eye injuries occur each day.**

• **CONSTRUCTION HAS THE HIGHEST RATE!**

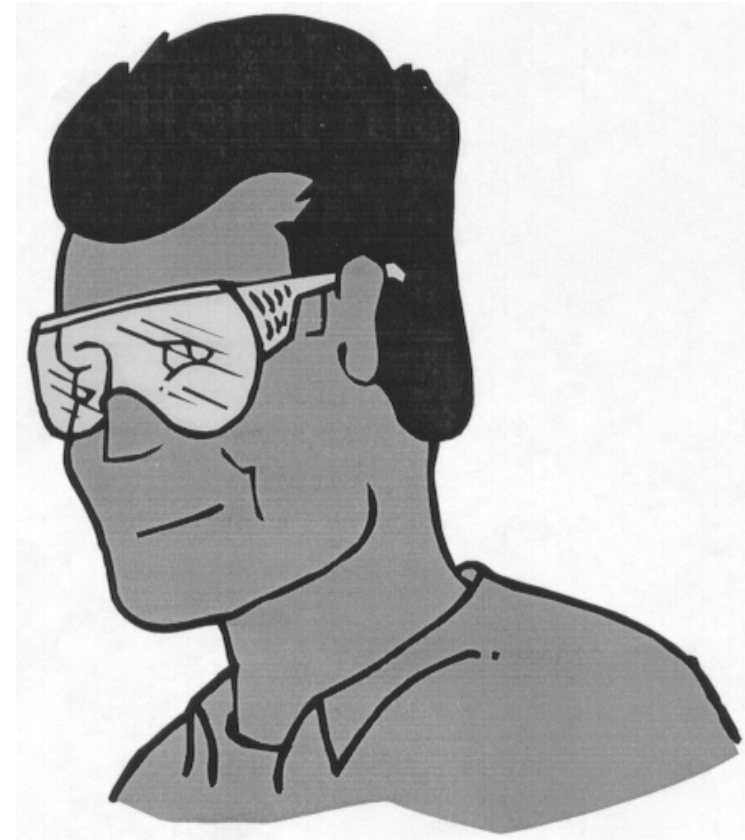
• **Every day, more than 120 construction workers are disabled and forced to miss work because of an eye injury.**

# the alternative ...

**Wearing protective glasses  
that cost as little as \$ 7.50 !!**

**MORE IMPORTANTLY,  
THOSE GLASSES WILL SAVE  
YOUR EYES.**

**It only takes a split second to  
injure your eye. But it takes a  
lot more time (and money) to  
heal.**



# how do eye injuries occur?

- **At George Washington University Emergency Department, over 300 construction workers have been treated for eye injuries since 1990.**

- **ELECTRICIANS, PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS RANK IN THE TOP FIVE TRADES.**

- **This is what we have learned about the circumstances of their eye injuries....**

# what is getting into your eyes?

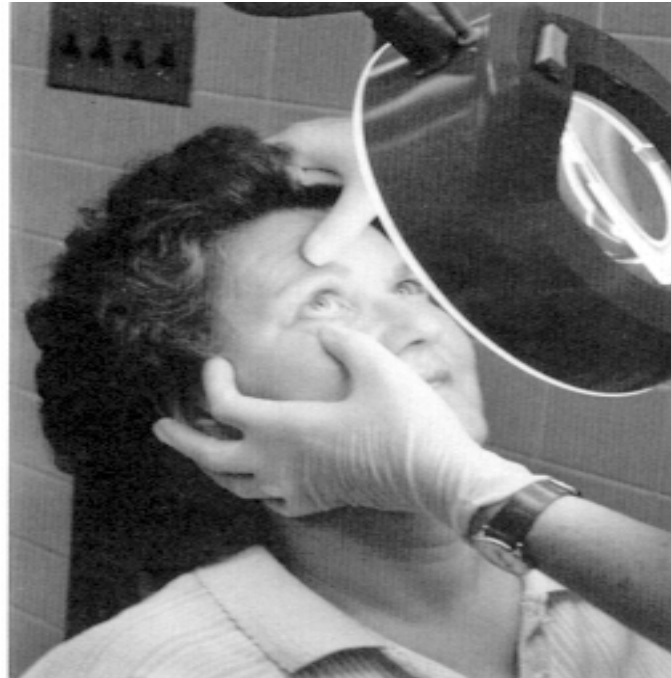
**Solvent  
splashes**

*liquids or gases under  
P R E S S U R E*

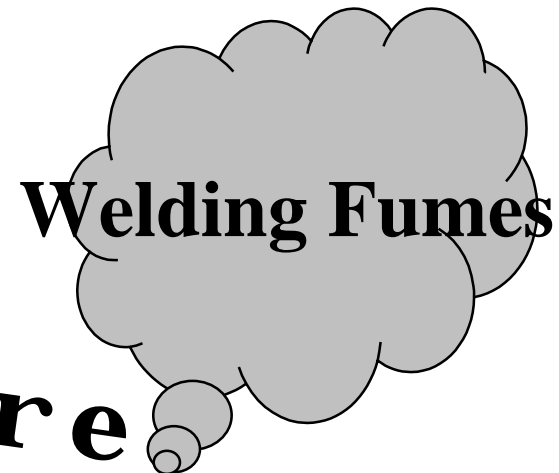


**Electrical  
Sparks**

**Insulation  
fibers**



**Solder  
Specks**



**grinding  
dust**

**bits of wire  
Glass**

**Welding Fumes**

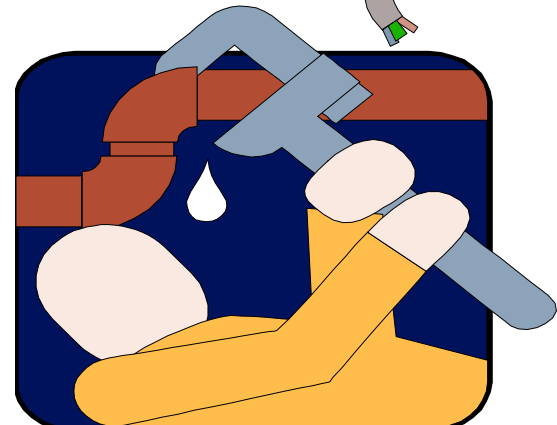
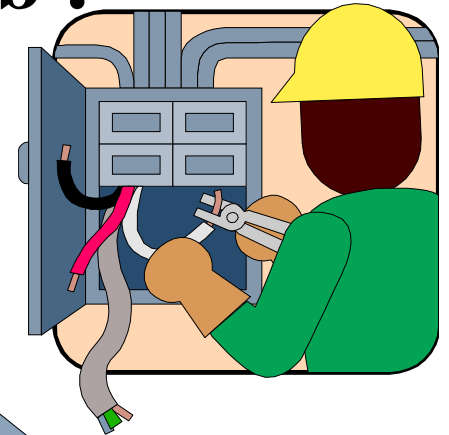
# the WHEN and HOW of eye injuries

**Eye injuries can occur anytime anywhere on the job !**

**If you ....**

- work overhead**
- weld**
- use power tools**
- work on live circuits**
- work with pressurized liquids or gas**

**.... you are especially at RISK!**

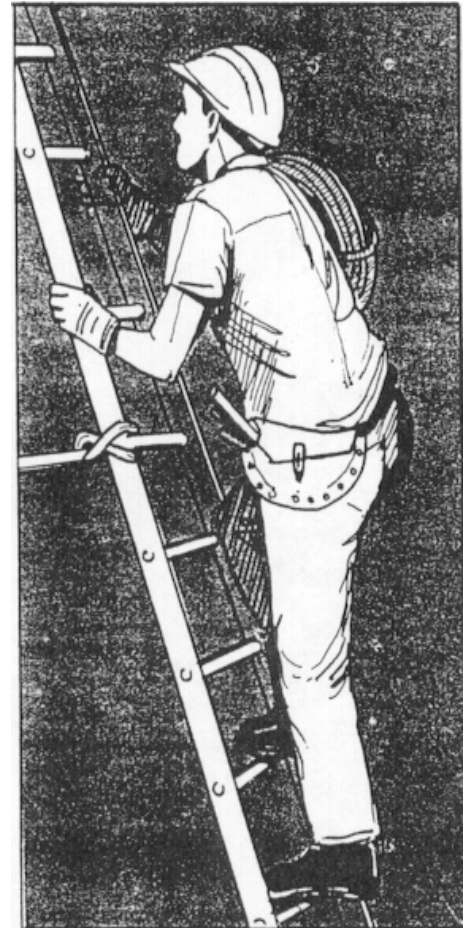


# overhead work

**Electricians get eye injuries when they work with....**

- wires
- conduits
- light units
- drop ceilings
- hangers
- smoke detectors
- drilling holes
- soldering

**...and don't forget about the prep work**

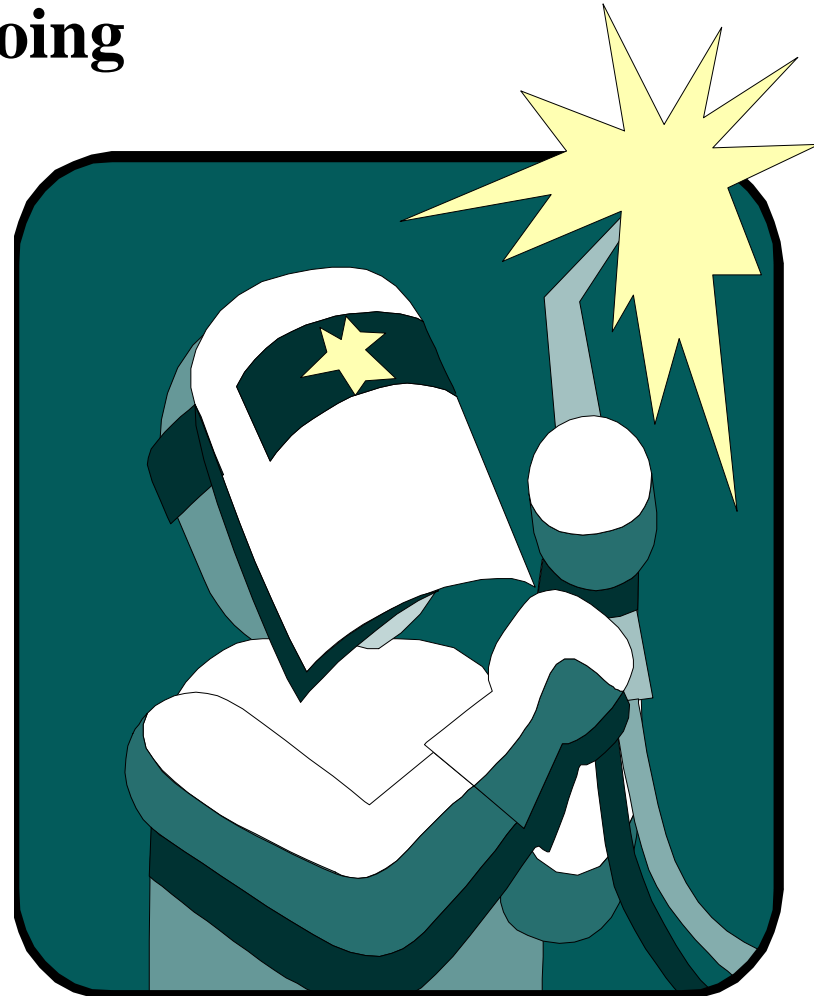


# overhead work

**Plumbers get eye injuries when doing overhead tasks such as....**

- **cutting pipes**
- **removing pipes**
- **welding**
- **soldering**
- **grinding**
- **fitting**
- **installing hangers**

*.... and don't forget about the prep work*





# working with power tools

- Obviously, power tools create lots and lots of dust, not only for you, but for people around you.

- POWER TOOLS ARE ESPECIALLY HAZARDOUS IN A CONFINED SPACE.**



# the innocent bystander...

**Some injuries occur simply by passing a work area or working next to someone who is grinding, sawing, or welding.**

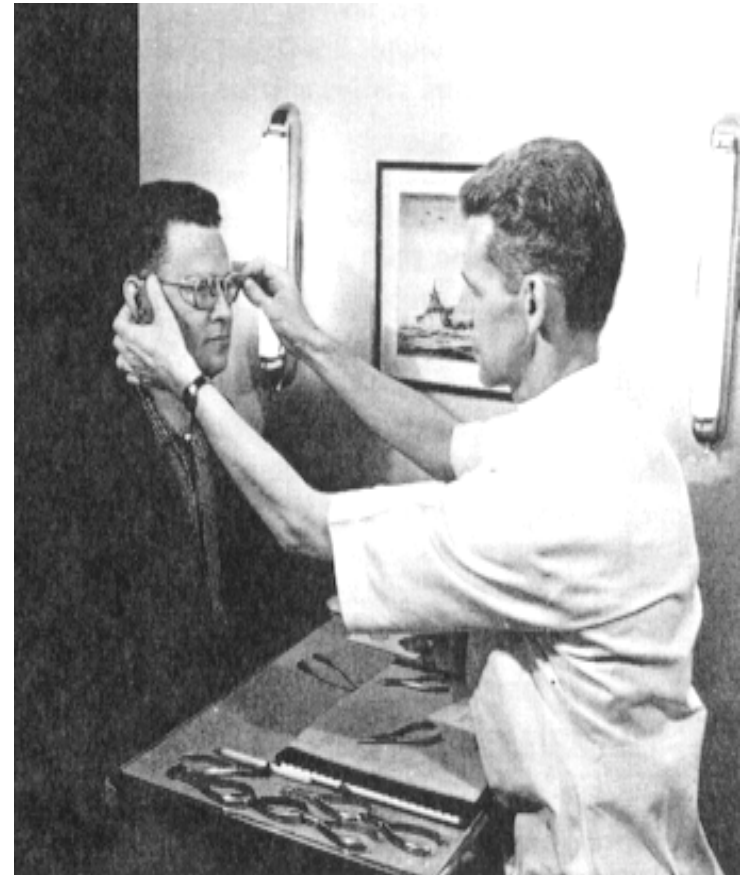


# eye protection: the right fit ...

**Some workers we talked to were wearing eye protection when they were injured.**

**Sometimes it was not the right kind and sometimes it was not the right fit!**

**Safety glasses should have side shields and if possible upper and lower shields.**



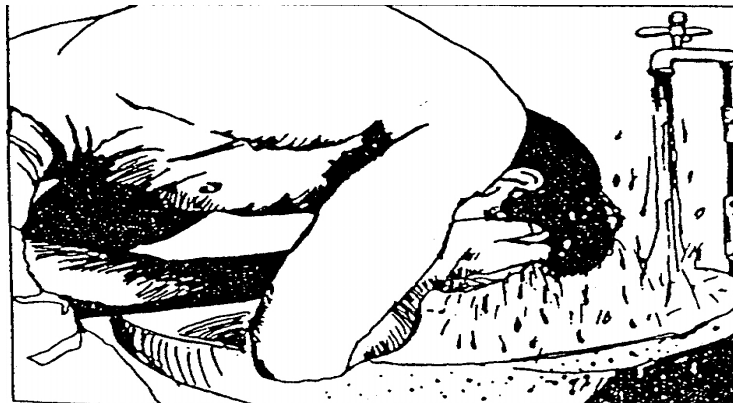
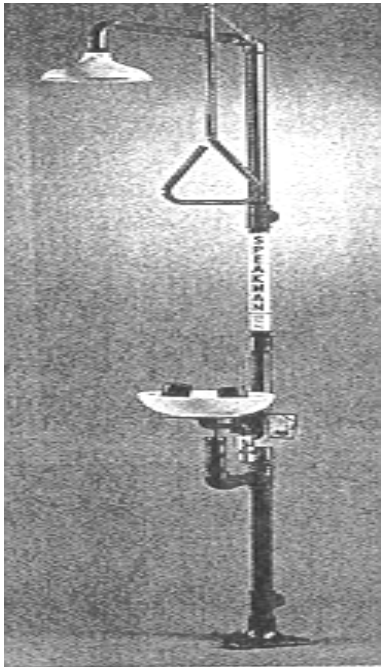
**GOGGLES ARE BEST!**

# what to do if you get something in your eye

**DON'T DON'T RUB IT!**

**Rinse with clean water for  
at least 15-20 minutes.**

**ANSI-approved eyewash  
stations are best. Eyewash bottles  
are not approved.**



**BUT ANY CLEAN WATER WILL DO !!**

# what next ???



**Get medical attention!!!!**

**Ask the safety supervisor or first aid person to take a look at your eye.**

**You might even need a trip to the ER.**



# what about a cut or puncture?

**DON'T DON'T DON'T**

**wash or touch your eye or lift the upper lid  
of your eye!**

**like the song says, let it be....**

**Get medical attention immediately!!**

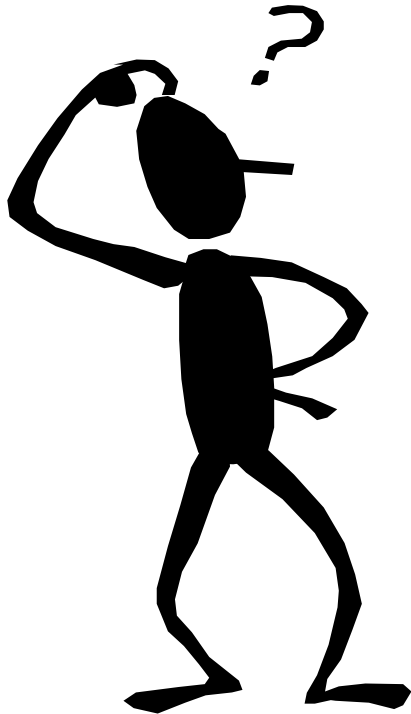


# workplace safety: are you ready for your work day?

- Do you have your SAFETY GLASSES?**
- Are they HANDY?**
- Do they FIT properly?**
- Do you know where the nearest EYEWASH STATIONS are from your work area?**
- Do you know how to get MEDICAL ATTENTION if needed?**

# things to think about...

**WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING TODAY ?**



**WILL YOU BE:**

- using a power tool?**
- drilling?**
- working overhead?**
- working near somebody who is using a power tool, welding, drilling, soldering, grinding, or working overhead?**



Have a Safe Work Day!

*Don't forget to wear your eye*



*gla*

