

Occupational Safety and Health Protection for Employees of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Executive Order 12196 and 29 CFR 1960 require the heads of Federal agencies to furnish to employees places and conditions of employment that are free from job safety and health hazards.

Responsibilities of Your Agency

1. General Requirements

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) will furnish employees places and conditions of employment that are free from on-the-job safety and health hazards.

2. OSHA Regulations

NIFA will comply with applicable regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

3. Reporting Hazards

NIFA will respond to employee reports of hazards in the workplace.

4. Workplace Inspections

NIFA will insure that each workplace is inspected annually for hazardous condition. NIFA will post Notices of Unsafe or Unhealthful Working Conditions found during the inspections for a minimum of three working days, or until the hazard is corrected, whichever is later.

5. Correction of Unsafe Conditions

NIFA will take prompt action to assure that hazardous conditions are eliminated. Imminent danger conditions will be corrected immediately.

6. Safety and Protective Equipment

NIFA will acquire, maintain and require use of appropriate protective and safety equipment.

7. Safety and Health Training

NIFA will provide occupational safety and health training for employees.

8. Reporting Accidents, Injuries and Occupational Illnesses

Supervisors must submit a supervisor's report of accidental injury/illness for all work-related accidents, injuries or occupational illnesses experienced by employees under their supervision.

9. Safety and Health Committees

NIFA will support any safety and health committees that are formed from management and employee representatives.

Employee Responsibilities

1. Compliance with Standards

Employees shall comply with all OSHA and approved NIFA occupational safety and health standards, policies and directives.

2. Safety and Protective Equipment

Employees shall use appropriate protective and safety equipment provided by NIFA.

Rights of Employees and Their Representatives

1. Participation in Safety and Health Program

Employees and their representatives shall have the right to participate in the NIFA Safety and Health Program. Employees shall be authorized official time for these activities.

2. Access to Records and Documents

Employees and their representatives shall have access to copies of applicable OSHA and other recognized standards and regulations; NIFA safety and health policies and directives; accident, injury and illness statistics of the NIFA.

3. Reporting Hazards

Employees and their representatives shall have the right to report unsafe or unhealthful working conditions to appropriate officials and to request an inspection of the workplace. The name of the employee making the report will be kept confidential if requested.

4. Freedom from Fear of Reprisal

Employees and their representatives are protected from restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal for exercising any of their rights under the NIFA Safety and Health Program.

Responsible Officials

The Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO) for NIFA is the Agricultural Research Service Deputy Administrator for Administrative and Financial Management.

Joon Park

The Agency Safety and Health Manager is:

Pete Jovanovich

and may be contacted at

301-504-1243

pete.jovanovich@ars.usda.gov

(Telephone and email)

The Designated Safety Official (DSO) for this workplace is:

and may be contacted at

(Telephone and location)

Further Information

This notice highlights the NIFA employee job safety and health program. More information about the agency program or its standards and procedures may be obtained from the workplace DSO.

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Sonny Ramaswamy
Director

NIFA