Dealing with COVID-19
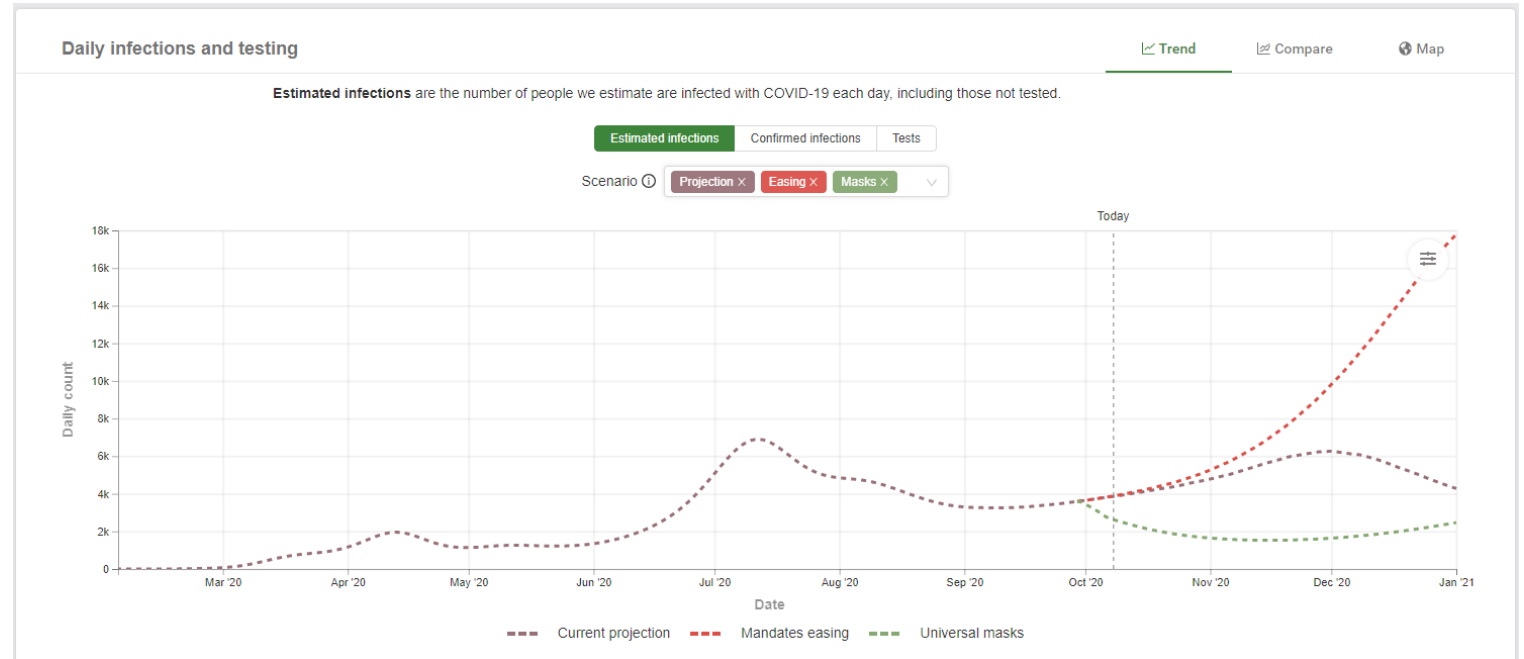## in the Workplace

Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)

- COVID-19 cases are on the rise
- It is deadly to a percentage of the population
- Wearing face covers slow the spread of the virus
- Social distancing is a safe practice
- Proper hygiene – cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitation matter

Data shows COVID-19 infections per day in SC from March 1, 2020 projected to January, 2021

Current Projection -----------
Mandates Easing -----------
Universal Mask Use -----------

Daily infections and testing

Estimated infections are the number of people we estimate are infected with COVID-19 each day, including those not tested.

https://scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/sc-testing-data-projections-covid-19

Data shows COVID-19 related deaths declining in SC from August 8, 2020 to October 6, 2020

COVID-19 Deaths in South Carolina Over the Previous 60 Days, by Date of Death
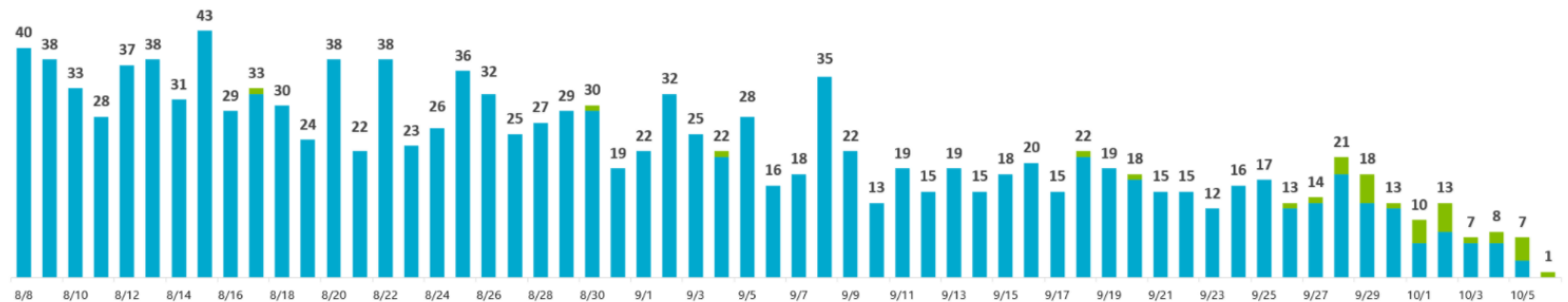*As of 11:59 PM on 10/6/2020*

■ Date of Death ■ Newly Reported Deaths

This graph displays the number of COVID-19 deaths by date of death. The **33 newly reported deaths** on October 7, 2020, *displayed in green*, are visualized by their date of death.

Newly Reported Deaths:
August 17 (1), August 30 (1), September 4 (1), September 18 (1), September 20 (1), September 26 (1), September 27 (1), September 28 (3), September 29 (5), September 30 (1), October 1 (4), October 2 (5), October 3 (1), October 4 (2), October 5 (4), October 6 (1)

Blue indicates previously reported deaths that occurred by date.

https://scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/sc-testing-data-projections-covid-19

- 7000+ Covid related lawsuits in the courts
- 80+ are related to workplace safety
  - PPE issues
  - Cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing issues
  - Whistleblower protection guidelines
- Best Practice is to follow existing OSHA Standards to protect workforce from exposure to hazard
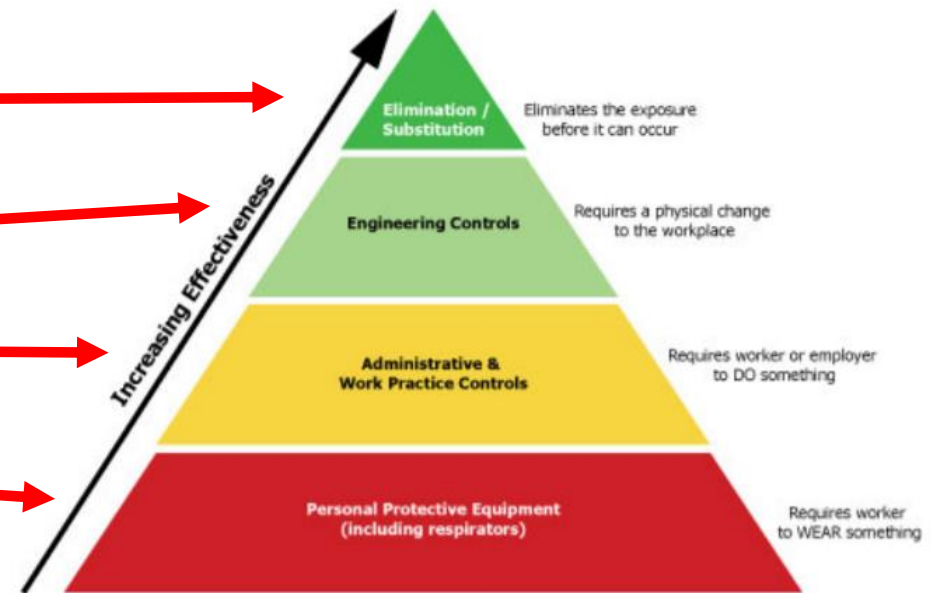
Working with COVID-19

- Have a PLAN – COVID-19 Preparedness & Response Plan
- Determine YOUR Exposure Risk – Very High, Medium, Low
- Follow the "Hierarchy of Controls" concept

- Eliminate exposure before it occurs
- Re-engineer or physically change the process
- Administrative & Work Practice Controls
- Worker wears PPE

Increasing Effectiveness

Elimination / Substitution — Eliminates the exposure before it can occur

Engineering Controls — Requires a physical change to the workplace

Administrative & Work Practice Controls — Requires worker or employer to DO something

Personal Protective Equipment (including respirators) — Requires worker to WEAR something

Elimination and Substitution

- Tasks should be evaluated for the possibility of working remotely

- Meetings/conferences and trainings should be done via the internet/virtually

- Employee-to-employee contact should be eliminated by spreading out workstations

- Employees should be encouraged to stay home if they feel ill in any way

Engineering Controls – physical barriers

- Workstation barriers

- Sneeze guards for cashiers

- Isolation of tasks should be considered where possible

- Increase ventilation, air exchanges and percent outside air

Administrative & Work Practice Controls

- Social Distancing

- Personal Cleanliness

- Work Surface Cleanliness

- Employee Training on COVID

- Additional Refresher Training (if workforce has been away for extended period)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Gloves
- Masks and Respirators
- Body Protection
- Eye/Face Protection
- PPE Training
  - When & Why to use
  - How to don/doff
  - How to dispose of or disinfect
  - Understand the limits of PPE

Beyond the Four Walls

- ## Fleet of Drivers
  - Cleaning of vehicles daily (per shift)
  - Drop & Go
- ## Supply Chain Concerns
  - Dedicated delivery locations
  - Aggressive cleaning & sanitation protocols in warehouses

Relevant OSHA requirements

- PPE General Requirements (29 CFR 1910.132)
- Eye & Face Protection (29 CFR 1910.133)
- Respiratory Protection (29 CFR 1910.134)
- Hand Protection (29 CFR 1910.138)
- Bloodborne Pathogens (29 CFR 1910.1030)
- Hazard Communication (29 CFR 1910.1200)
- General Duty Clause, Sec 5(a)(1)

Summary

- Develop and implement a plan to respond to all phases of the pandemic

- Train all staff in the plan and what to expect

- Continue to communicate your facility's status to employees as the pandemic progresses

- Documented records of inspections and cleanings validate the work has been completed

RESOURCES

- OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19 - https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.osha.gov%2FPublications%2FOSHA3990.pdf

- SCDHEC COVID Testing & Data Projections - https://scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/sc-testing-data-projections-covid-19

- SCOSHA COVID Resource Hub - http://www.scosha.llronline.com/pdfs/2020/SC%20OSHA%20Work%20Re-Entry.pdf

- ISRI COVID Resource Hub - https://www.isri.org/covid-19

- CDC COVID Resource Hub - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

- IHME Resource Hub - http://www.healthdata.org/covid