

The Builder



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September 2018

Touch A Truck: A Great Success!



The fifth edition of Touch A Truck Lynchburg was a solid success, raising nearly \$20,000 for the recipient charities and drawing 5,000+ to the Sims Farm venue on September 8.

All this came despite a week-long series of unruly weather forecasts which negatively impacted online pre-sales but then led to record day-of-event sales at the venue.

The weather did impact both of the events "air" events, grounding the Sky Divers and also keeping the Centra Medicav helicopter from flying in. But more than 80 vehicles were on display and the two Monster Truck shows drew large crowds. **(SEE MORE ON PAGE 9).**

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NAHB Backs Kavanaugh for Supreme Court

NAHB supports Judge Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court because of his [extensive record](#) as a highly qualified, principled, and fair jurist who deserves confirmation to the nation's highest court.

In his 12 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, Kavanaugh has been involved in eight cases in which NAHB was a petitioner. NAHB members need only look at Kavanaugh's judicial decisions to see that he has a strong record of curbing regulatory overreach.

Visit NAHB.org to [send a message](#) through BuilderLink to your senators encouraging them to vote yes on Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh.

NAHB Offers Ideas on EPA Regulatory Process

EPA has requested public comments on how it can be [more transparent](#) regarding the scientific data it relies upon to establish new federal environmental regulations. The Agency also aims to be more consistent when evaluating the costs and benefits of proposed rules.

In its comments, NAHB asked EPA to extend the scientific data transparency proposal to proposed rules as well as Agency guidance documents. NAHB also urged EPA to develop a consistent methodology for conducting cost-benefit analyses during the federal rulemaking process.

Ruling Muddies the WOTUS Waters

A recent ruling by the U.S. District Court for South Carolina means that for now, half of U.S. states will have one set of rules pertaining to waters of the U.S. while the rest have different rules. The decision leaves the [regulated community in disarray](#).

In 24 states, the 1986 definition of waters of the United States is applicable. In the remaining 26 states, the 2015 WOTUS rule defines the term "waters of the United States." EPA is trying to finalize a 2017 rulemaking that would help resolve the issue.

HUD to Amend Fair Housing Rule

HUD is inviting public comment on amendments to its [Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing](#) (AFFH) regulations.

Under the AFFH rule, as a condition of receiving certain HUD funds, state and local governments must identify barriers to fair housing choice and ensure that practices and policies do not promote racial segregation.

HUD found that the AFFH rule proved ineffective and highly prescriptive, and discouraged production of affordable housing.

Treasury Issues Draft Rule for 'Pass Throughs'

The Treasury Department in August released draft regulations for the new 20% [pass through entity](#) deduction under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.

The regulations will affect individuals, partnerships, S corporations, trusts, and estates.

NAHB is in the process of reviewing the proposals to determine how they will affect its members.



Builder Member of the Month

Andy Flint

Andy Flint is president of LG Flint Inc., the company founded by his grandfather Lloyd G. Flint in 1951. Andy has more than 20 years experience in the industry since graduating from Virginia Tech in 1997. Through the years L.G. Flint, Inc has become one of the area's most versatile builders in both residential builds and remodels as well as commercial structures ranging from manufacturing and retail builds to college dormitories and churches.



Andy credits the company's strong team of executives, superintendents and staff as solid evidence of the firm's competitive edge and financial stability.

Andy is a former HBACV board of director and past president of the HBACV. He was also a regional state vice-president of the Home Builders of Virginia.

Contact: (434) 384-5200

Website: <http://www.lgflint.com>

Address: 3008 Forest Hills Circle, Lynchburg, Virginia 24501



Associate Member of the Month

Sandy Speck

Sandy Speck is a long-time active member of HBACV and joined the board of directors in 2017. Sandy is the branch manager/loan officer of the Lynchburg office of Assurance Financial. Sandy was previously the Branch Manager of Atlantic Bay Mortgage. Sandy has been working in mortgage and construction lending since the late 1990s in the Lynchburg market. She first joined the HBACV in 1996.



The details: Sandy has been a member of the HBACV Board of Directors since 2017 and is also a member of the HBACV Touch A Truck and Raffle Committees.

Contact: 540-431-4343 / sspeck@lentheway.com

Website: www.lentheway.com

Address: 101 DunCraig Dr., Ste 107, Lynchburg, VA 24502

2018 HBACV LEADERSHIP

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Brent Lilly - 1st VP

Joe Hepler - 2nd VP

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Chris Hargis - Assoc. VP

Chris Mowry - Past Pres.

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Matt Yeatman

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NAHB National Director:

Jeff Wieczorek

HBACV Executive Officer:

Bob Morgan

CONTACT THE HBACV:

Office: (434) 385-6018

Cell: (434) 841-7588

Email: Bob@hbacv.org

Fall state meeting set for Oct. 4 in Richmond

The Home Builders Association of Virginia will hold its fall meeting in Richmond on Oct. 4 starting at 9 am. The day-long event includes meetings of all HBAV standing committees, the HBAV Board of Directors, and a luncheon featuring a keynote speaker that is open to all HBAV members.

Also at the meeting the HBAV Legislative Committee, which has held two preliminary meetings, will present a tentative legislative agenda to the full membership. Local Association's recommendations have been reviewed by the HBAV Legislative Committee.

Legislative Committee Members are working to develop HBAV's 2019 General Assembly Legislative Agenda and will continue to accept some input through the fall. The HBAV Legislative Committee is comprised of HBAV members appointed from the 15 local associations in Virginia.

The meeting will be held at the Delta Hotel in downtown Richmond at 555 E. Canal Street, Richmond, 23219.

Here is the meeting schedule:

9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. - (2) Local HBA Executive Officers and HBAV Education Foundation

10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. - (2) HBAV Legislative Committee and HBAV Associates Committee

11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. - (2) HBAV Build PAC and HBAV Membership Committee

Noon - 1:30 P.M. - (1) HBAV Board Meeting and Membership Lunch with Keynote Speaker, **Erik Johnston, Director of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.**

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. - (1) Local HBA Presidents/HBAV Regional VP Meeting.

Code change classes backed up to January

Because of the time required for the area's building inspectors and employees to complete their training, the code change classes being put together by the HBACV will not take place until January.

Specific dates and times for the classes will be announced in November. This information will be passed on to members and area builders and trades.

With the final adoption process now complete the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) will begin to be implemented through 2019. Builders will have a 12-month grace period to begin fully adopting and following the changes.

Local building inspectors are currently working through their training on the code changes. Once the local building inspection officials have completed this process, the HBACV will schedule education seminars for our members.

Click [HERE](#) to see the recently updated Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Website which provides copies of the updated code.

Forecast: Growth May Begin to Slow

The nation's economy is enjoying one of the longest stretches of continued GDP growth in history, but the level of economic acceleration might soon begin to ease.

In a midyear economic forecast, NAHB Chief Economist Robert Dietz was quick to point out that aside from the declining affordability of housing, "overall economic conditions remain solid."

He noted that while certain seemingly negative dynamics of the economy will actually prove to be good news for housing demand, several challenges will persist.

"We're in an aging growth cycle and some imbalances are beginning to build up in the macroeconomy, [so] we have to be aware of those risks going forward," Dietz said.

Dietz's full presentation, as



well as several more from other NAHB economists, can be viewed for free at nahb.org/forecasts. The presentations provide insights on many key areas of the housing sector — some that are likely to experience sustained growth, and others showing signs of a slowdown.

The additional presentations include: Lumber and Tariffs; Multifamily Cost of Regulation; Macro and Regional Conditions; and Living Arrangements of Young Adults.

Townhouse Construction Sees Big Gains

Townhouse construction posted significant gains during the second quarter of 2018, according to NAHB analysis of the most recent Census report on Starts and Completions by Purpose and Design. [Townhouse construction](#) is set for further expansion given the demographics of renters entering the for-sale market, as well as ongoing land constraints and growth of demand for walkable neighborhoods.

Using a one-year moving average, the market share of new townhouses stands at 13.1% of all single-family starts, a post-recession high.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Sept. 18 (Tues.) Hammer Time:** Hosted by Boxley Materials; Touch A Truck charity awards. Starts at 5 pm. Please RSVP to bob@hbacv.org.

- **Oct. 4:** [HBAV Fall State Meetings](#), In Richmond at Delta Hotel. 9 am.

- **Oct. 17:** [HBAV Build-PAC Golf Tournament](#), at Massanutten Resort near Harrisonburg.

- **Oct. 23 (Tues.) Hammer Time:** Hosted by Berkshire Hathway / Dawson Ford Garbee. Site to be announced; Fall Brunswick Stew gathering. Starts at 5 pm. Please RSVP to bob@hbacv.org.

- **Nov. 13 (Tues.) HBAV Full Membership Meeting (this is a week early because of Thanksgiving Holiday):** Hosted by HBAV at The Meeting Place in Wyndhurst; Voting on 2019 slate of officers. Starts at 5 pm. Please RSVP to bob@hbacv.org.

- **Dec. 7 (Fri.) HBAV Holiday Gala and Installation of 2019 Officers.** Hosted by HBAV at City Views atop the Bank of the James Building in downtown Lynchburg. This is a ticketed event and we are seeking sponsors. at the Platinum, Gold and Silver levels. Contact Bob for more information.

Registration now open for IBS in Las Vegas

The International Builders' Show is returning to Las Vegas in 2019 and members of HBACV receive discounts on the registration and hotels - Just another way your HBACV membership helps pay for itself.

The building industry's biggest annual event will be held Feb. 19-21 at the Las Vegas Convention Center. As always it will be packed with cutting-edge product displays, informative educational programs and countless of opportunities for networking with

industry colleagues from around the country and the world.

Comedian Dana Carvey will be the featured speaker at opening ceremonies Feb. 19, with the Goo Goo Dolls headlining the ever-popular Spike Party concert Feb. 21.

Register in September and save \$100 on the full convention registration fee, plus free admission for your spouse. The hotel assigned to members from Virginia is Encore. For details, click:

<https://buildersshow.com/Home/>

Opioid Deaths Plague Construction Industry

Massachusetts construction industry workers are six times more likely to die of an [opioid overdose](#) than the average worker, according to a recent report from the state's Department of Public Health.

The report summarized the findings of a study funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Researchers examined the death certificates of everyone in the state who died of an opioid overdose from 2011 to 2015 with an occupation listed on the certificate.

"Construction and extraction" workers had an opioid overdose death rate of 150.6 deaths per 100,000 workers over the study period, with 1,096 deaths recorded, accounting for almost a quarter of all opioid-related deaths among the working population.

The report also highlighted specific jobs within the construction industry listed on death certificates. The highest rates of overdose deaths among construction workers were: Construction laborers (374 deaths representing 34.2% of overdose deaths among construction workers) and carpenters (201 deaths representing 18.4%).



HBAV Build-PAC Golf event coming

The 15th Annual Koebig Klassic Golf Tournament brings together HBA members from around the state to share camaraderie and raise funds for the Home Builders Association of Virginia's Build PAC.

It will be held Wednesday, Oct. 17 at Massanutten Resort near Harrisonburg. It is a shotgun start at 11 am and includes a full post-tournament social and meal. Deadline to enter is Oct. 11.

The tournament is open to all HBACV members, member companies or a foursome from multiple member companies. The cost for a foursome is \$800 and the cost for an individual golfer is \$200.

If you are interested in playing please contact EO Bob Morgan (841-7588; bob@hbacv.org) or contact Kathy Harley (kharley@hbav.com or 804-643-2797.)

Scholarship Golf Tournament draws twenty teams



Golfers prepare on the practice green ahead of the tournament

Pella team wins Golf Tournament

The HBACV had an outstanding golf tournament Aug. 24th with 20 teams enjoying wonderful weather and even better golf. The event put our 2019 College Scholarship Fund well on its way to meeting its goal. Our thanks to top sponsors Ferguson Enterprises and Atlantic Bay Mortgage and every business which supported the event. Winner of the championship flight was Pella Window (HBACV member Mark Kreskowski) with a blistering 17-under-par 55, three shots ahead of Select Bank. Foster Fuels won the second flight and BB&T Investments the third flight.



Union Bank & Trust's Tim Black lines up a putt



Check out the Hammer Head putter that Matt Yeatman used to roll this birdie attempt on the 17th hole.

[Click Here:](#) to see more photos on our Facebook Page.

HBACV Member asks for support of The United Way Campaign

An Open Letter To the HBACV Membership

My name is Andy Flint. I am a builder member and past president of the HBACV and I serve on the United Way Campaign Cabinet. I have been tasked with drumming up support from the Building Trades for the annual United Way campaign. We recently had a meeting at the Salvation Army (1 of our 37 programs supported in the area). It was an eye-opening experience to see how much the Salvation Army is able to do with zero government assistance. They run many programs including a shelter, feeding programs and youth outreach programs.

The United Way of Central Virginia's (UWCV) purpose is to improve the quality of life for our neighbors in need by identifying the region's most critical challenges, and deploying resources to achieve positive, sustainable community change. Each year, the programs UWCV funds through its partner agencies touch the lives of over 60,000 people in Central Virginia: Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell and Lynchburg. That's nearly one quarter of the entire population benefiting from the generosity of our donors and the work of our partner agencies. We believe in the vision of a thriving community where everyone has the opportunity to realize their full human potential and achieve self-sufficiency. And any money given to our campaign is guaranteed to support our programs 100%.

For many years the local building industry supported the United Way through direct corporate donations and through employee deferral programs. We want to make a big push this year to get the corporate donations as well as employee deferrals. I have been amazed to hear the stories in my short time working with the United Way of the wide variety of programs this organization supports. You won't have to look far to find an employee, subcontractor or maybe a friend or family member who benefits from these programs. With this in mind I will be reaching out over the next several weeks to ask for your support during our campaign.

Finally, in the near term, there is an opportunity to donate to and also have a foursome in our upcoming United Way of Central Virginia's golf tournament. It will be Friday, Oct. 5 at London Downs. There are team spots still available and hole sponsorships. A minimum \$150 donation (if received by 10/5/18) will be matched by our tournament sponsor, Williams. Please consider supporting our tournament in some capacity.

Contact Andy at aflint@lgflint.com or the United Way for more info.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **August 23 (Thurs.) Hammer Time:** Hosted by Sunburst Vinyl Supply (1731 Sunburst Road, Evington, VA 24550). Starts at 5 pm. Please RSVP to bob@hbacv.org. **NOTE:** HBACV Board of Directors Meets here at 4 pm.
- **August 24 (Fri.) Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament:** At London Downs. Registration and lunch at 12:30 pm; Shot gun start at 1:30 pm; prizes and post-event social at 6 pm. Contact bob@hbacv.org for information or entry form.
- **September 8 (Sat.) - The fifth annual Touch A Truck:** at Sims Farm in New London. The HBACV's Annual Community Charity Fundraiser. Net proceeds from this event support Challenged Sports Exchange and Jubilee Family Dev. Center. Contact bob@hbacv.org for information.
- **Sept. 18 (Tues.) Hammer Time:** Hosted by Boxley Materials; Touch A Truck charity awards. Starts at 5 pm. Please RSVP to bob@hbacv.org.
- **Oct. 4:** [HBAV Fall State Meetings](#), In Richmond at Delta Hotel. 10 am.
- **Oct. 23 (Tues.) Hammer Time:** Hosted by Dawson Ford Garbee. Starts at 5 pm. RSVP to bob@hbacv.org.
- **Oct. 17:** [HBAV Build-PAC Golf Tournament](#), at Massanutten Resort near Harrisonburg.

Touch A Truck 2018



The HBACV's largest charitable event drew strong crowds on Sept. 8 to Sims Farm Exhibition site. The HBACV Touch A Truck Committee, led by chairman Brent Lilly, once again put together a maximum effort to make the event a great success. Thank you to the committee and to every HBACV member who contributed.



Thanks again to our Business Sponsors:
Craft Automotive Group; Foster Fuels; Builders FirstSource; Lynchburg Ready Mix; Wooldridge Heating Air Electric; Finly Corp.; Member One; Assurance Financial and Runk & Pratt.

Get your message in front of hundreds and also support the HBACV

How?

Advertise in The Builder

The Builder is the official publication of the Home Builders Association of Central Virginia and is delivered monthly to current and past members of the association as well as targeted non-members in the local building industry. The newsletter is delivered via email, web and social media placement and as a print product upon request. This allows you to get your message consistently before the most influential decision-making professionals in the building, remodeling and housing industry in Central Virginia.

The Builder is produced monthly and includes 12 to 16 pages per issue.

The Builder's rates provide prices significantly lower than any other marketing avenue available to you in the greater Lynchburg area.

Get a great deal

Newsletter Sponsorship - two available. This provides a full-page ad in each issue and banner mention on the front page. Cost is \$1,250 a year.

Sponsors also receives a monthly post on the HBACV Facebook Page.

Newsletter ads (sizes and rates).

- **Full Page** - \$125 per issue. (8 x 10.5 inches)
- **Half Page** - \$75 per issue. (4 x 10.5 inches or 8 x 5.25 inches)
- **Quarter Page** - \$50 per issue. (4 x 5.25 or 2.5 x 10.5 inches)
- **Eighth of a Page** - \$25 per issue (2.5 x 2.5 inches)

All ads are discounted 10% when purchasing three months or more in a single buy.

The Small Print

Ads need to be provided to the HBACV in a digital format (300 dpi) in either PDF or JPEG format. Ads can be color or black and white. Ad deadline is the the first day of each month. (Example: An ad in the Feb. 12th newsletter is due no later than Feb. 1). Ads that are an incorrect size will be adjusted to fit the purchased space. Advertising charge will be invoiced and payment must be made within 30 days.

NOTE: Get a 15% discount if you purchase ad/sponsorship in both the newsletter and the new HBACV website.

NEW MEMBER NEWS

■ **Movement Mortgage** has joined the HBACV. Branch Manager Karen Metz will be the company's main participating member but other member will also be involved. Movement Mortgage offers a banker offering purchase, refinance and renovation financing. It is located at 20566 Timberlake Rd., Lynchburg, VA 24502. Office phone is (434) 509-5062.

■ **HealthWorks** has joined the HBACV. Sales Manager Drew Sherwood will be the company's main participating member. HealthWorks, affiliated with Centra Health, offers programs in wellness, occupational medicine, work recovery and employer and association clinics. It is located at 125 Nationwide Drive, Lynchburg, 24502. Office phone is (434) 200-2347.

■ **Interested in Joining the HBACV?** Contact a member, or go to our web site www.hbacv.org or contact executive director Bob Morgan at 385-6018 or bob@hbacv.org.

■ **Building a vibrant association.** Membership growth - especially builders and trades - is the life-blood of our association. Take a moment and jot down the names of anyone who you see as a potential member. Then work with us and other HBACV members so we can bring them on board .



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Older than the Reagan Administration

Census data reveal the median age of owner-occupied housing has increased to 37 years old, meaning half of all homes in the U.S. were built prior to 1980 — before Ronald Reagan took office, before Michael Jackson first performed “Thriller” and long before M*A*S*H aired its last episode.

The [age of the housing stock](#) is an important remodeling market indicator. Older houses are less energy-efficient than new construction and ultimately will require remodeling and renovation in the future.

As NAHB economist Na Zhao wrote in a recent post for Eye On Housing, the aging housing stock is largely due to the cyclical effect of residential construction’s modest pace combined with ever-rising home prices. Those factors are compelling many home owners to simply stay put and consider updating their current home.

FHFA Ends Single Family Rental Pilot

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) has announced that it is directing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (the Enterprises) to conclude their single-family [rental market pilot](#) programs except through their previously existing investor programs.

FHFA determined the Enterprises’ single-family investment home rental programs have played an important role for small investors, but the market for larger investors has performed well without Enterprise participation.

NAHB had urged caution about the Enterprises expanding into this market, noting concerns about the potential effects on single-family sales and the diversion of resources from multifamily housing.

This decision does not preclude the Enterprises from proposing changes to their existing single-family programs to meet the needs of the single-family rental market.

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Lumber producers acting like an oil cartel of the 1970s

In a recent story one how lumber tariffs are affecting U.S. and Canadian lumber producers as well as American consumers, NAHB CEO Jerry Howard said the domestic lumber industry was behaving in a manner similar to the oil cartels of the 1970s.

“We believe the lumber producers were acting not much differently than the oil cartels did back in the 1970s,” said Howard in an interview with the Canadian news outlet. “There is just too much evidence that leads us to conclude that there was profiteering going on.”

Domestic lumber production has not kept pace with growing demand since the tariffs were enacted, and U.S. logging and sawmill employment has been relatively flat. In a normal economic scenario, tariffs coupled with a steadily growing housing recovery would encourage domestic lumber producers to ramp up production and hiring to meet a growing demand for lumber.

Susan Yurkovich, president of the B.C. Lumber Trade Council, summed up the situation precisely when she told the National Post: “Who’s really suffering is the U.S. consumer.”

Builders, take a moment to say thanks to the Associates

September is Associate Member Appreciation Month for the National Association of Home Builders. This means that all professionals in the building industry - and especially builders - should take a moment to thank the many hard working Associate members who support your businesses and help the HBACV thrive.

Associate members help home builders run successful businesses and make meaningful connections with customers. Most importantly, they help build the homes that improve the lives of families and make a lasting impact in communities all across this country.

Are you an Associate member? Thanks for all you do!



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Doing Business with a Member Creates a Stronger Association

The HBACV provides full contact information for all members to all other members through our website and through our office. Building your HBACV network allows you to provide members with service and resource information aligned with their needs and your products. In addition, because you are a member of the local, state and national associations, you can get access to membership lists in adjacent territories. Do business with a member and support those businesses that support the HBACV.

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and click on the Office Depot logo

New Home Seminar by Craftsman, Assurance

HBACV Members Joe Hepler and Steve Ellis with Craftsman Custom Home Builders and Sandy Speck with Assurance Financial will host a free seminar for new-built home buyers on Thursday, Sept. 20 from 7 pm until 9 pm at the Kirkley Hotel.

The free seminar will cover questions related to finding a building site, finding the right builder and the financing involved.

While free, attendees are asked to RSVP by September 19. Doors open at 6:30 pm. RSVP by calling (434) 266-1070 or emailing jhepler@craftsmanhomebuilders.com.

Annual Bedford Business Expo coming Sept. 27

The Bedford County Chamber of Commerce is holding its annual **Bedford Business Expo** on Thursday, Sept. 27 from noon until 5 pm at the Bedford Area Family YMCA. The event is free and open to the public.

More than 70 companies are expected to participate. Come and check out business opportunities and showcase your products & services to the community. Booth Space is still available and reduced rates may apply.

The free event will be followed by a **Taste of Bedford event**. It runs from 5 pm until 7 pm.

2018 Renewals & New Members

Thank You for your ongoing support of the Home Builders Association of Central Virginia.

AmeriGas
Assurance Financial
Century 21 - All Service
Member One FCU
Dawson, Ford, Garbee
Taylor Brothers
Long & Foster
Ferguson Enterprises
Frances Oil & Propane
Union Bank & Trust
Gillespie Plumbing
KU Forming
Affordable Portables
Diamong Hill Plywood
Central Va. Construction
Lowe's (Lynchburg)
Lowe's (Bedford)
Lowe's (Madison Hgts.)
Hawkins-Graves
Lilly Construction
Wellington Builders
Foxcrest Builders
Nelligan Insulation
Dawson Ford Garbee
Morcom Building
Southern TimberCraft
F&S Building Innovations
Fisher Drafting & Design
Pella Window & Door
Central Technology
Solutions
Rhino Foundations
Atlantic Bay Mortgage
Craftsman Custom Homes
Foster Fuels
Movement Mortgage
Select Bank
Skinner Construction
Columbia Gas

Toler Insulation
Bug Man Exterminating
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Mortgage
Hajoca
HealthWorks
David James Homes
Balzer & Associates Inc
JCL Cable
One Stop Improvement
Shop (K Guard)
First Piedmont
84 Lumber
Sellari Enterprises
Pinnacle Cabinetry
DeWitt Real Estate
Creative Edge Design
Sunburst Vinyl Supply
First Action Systems
Carpetland USA
Wells Fargo
Yates Homes
Lynchburg Garage Door
Boxley Materials
Foxcrest Developers
First National Bank
Wellington Builders
Lilly Construction
Discount Portable Toilets
First Bank & Trust
Showerdoorsonline
Discount Portable
Restrooms
English's Home Center
Wall Construction
Frank Good Builders
Custom Structures
Piedmont Floors
Perry & Mays

OSHA Release Silica Rule FAQ



Unsure of Silica Rules? New document may help

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration released in late August a set of 53 **frequently asked questions** – and their answers – to provide guidance to employers and employees on its respirable crystalline silica standard for construction.

Through the Construction Industry Safety Coalition, NAHB was an important contributor to the formulation of this FAQ. The development stemmed from litigation filed against OSHA by numerous construction industry trade associations challenging the legality of the new silica rule.

NAHB will continue to look for ways to work with OSHA to improve the workability of this significant rule.

The FAQ is extensive and organized by topic. A short introductory paragraph is included for each group of questions; the answers appear in an expanded box when each question is clicked.

Importantly, the FAQ clarifies that many common construction tasks are likely to be *outside* the scope of the standard. This includes mixing small amounts of mortar; mixing small amounts of concrete; mixing bagged, silica-free drywall compound; mixing bagged exterior insulation finishing system base and finish coat; and removing concrete formwork.

In addition, tasks in which employees are working with silica products that are handled while wet are likely to generate exposures outside of the scope of the standard, including finishing and hand wiping block walls to remove excess wet mortar, pouring concrete, and grouting floor

and wall tiles. The FAQ also states that many silica-generating tasks performed for 15 minutes or less a day will fall outside the scope of the standard.

Other clarifications in the FAQ highlighted by NAHB staff include:

Table 1. The requirement that employers “[o]perate and maintain” tools “in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions to minimize dust emissions,” applies only to manufacturer instructions that are *related to dust control*. Other information in these instructions, including recommended respiratory protection, do not have to be followed for purposes of the standard. OSHA has agreed to issue a Request for Information on Table 1 to revise the table to improve its utility.

Written Exposure Control Plan. The standard does not require employers to develop a *new* written plan for each job or worksite. It requires only that employers have a written exposure control plan applicable to each worksite. Employers may develop a single, comprehensive, written exposure-control plan that covers all required aspects of the plan for all work activities at all worksites. The standard does not preclude employees from entering work areas where silica-generating tasks are occurring when it is necessary for them to do so. Rather, the rule calls only for *minimizing* the number of employees in the relevant work areas.

Review the new FAQ at:
https://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/construction_info_silica.html.