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**Weatherization Safety Plan**

**ADMINISTRATIVE / ENGINEERING CONTROLS**

**CHANGE THE WAY PEOPLE WORK**

Weatherization professionals should reference the [SWS](https://sws.nrel.gov/), [OSHA](https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs) Standards and [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html) guidelines to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

At Pace, we…

* Have a written [Safety Manual](https://pacecaa.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B6581E1B9-F564-4F26-946A-173BA9C313E3%7D&file=Safety%20Manual-2020.doc&action=default&mobileredirect=true) (Plan) that addresses infectious control
* Provide training
* Follow standardized work practices
* Social distancing
* Limiting the number of Weatherization professionals in vehicles and in homes
* Washing hands
* Sanitizing hands & equipment

**ISOLATE THE HAZARD**

* Provide initial telephone inspection to include health screening for clients prior to entering homes
* Wear PPE in homes at all times
* Ask the client, if comfortable, to remain in an isolated room of their home while contractors are present
* Open windows and doors to increase fresh air filtration, if possible
* Run air handler to increase filtration
* Less contractors in vehicles, consider taking more than 1 vehicle to avoid close interaction

**OSHA Compliance**

1. Purpose - Ensure adherence to OSHA Confined Space

**“Confined Space”** means a space that:

1. Is large enough and so configured that an employee/contractor can bodily enter and perform assigned work; and
2. Has limited or restricted means for entry or exit (for example, tanks, vessels, silos, storage bins, hoppers, vaults, and pits are spaces that may have limited means of entry.); and
3. Is not designed for continuous employee/contractor occupancy -

A pre- entry assessment of every confined space is imperative to ensure worker health and safety. This assessment must include atmospheric monitoring and a visual inspection of the area around the entry point.

1. Procedure –

Employee/Contractor shall not enter any permit required confined spaces.

If the crawl or attic space poses no actual or potential atmospheric hazards and if all hazards within the space are eliminated without entry into the space, the permit space may be reclassified as a non-permit confines space for as long as the non-atmospheric hazards remain eliminated.

**“Non-permit confined space”** means a confined space that does not contain or, with respect to atmospheric hazards, have the potential to contain any hazard capable of causing death or serious physical harm.

**Crawl and attic spaces** may be reclassified as a non-permit confined space under the following procedures:

1. Surveillance: The surrounding area shall be surveyed to avoid hazards such as, electrical hazards, animal feces or leaking sewer lines.
2. Testing: The atmosphere within the space will be tested to determine whether dangerous air contamination and/or oxygen deficiency exists. Detector tubes, alarm only gas monitors and explosion meters are examples of monitoring equipment that may be used to test permit space atmospheres.

If hazards arise within a permit space that has been declassified to a non-permit space, each contractor in the space shall exit the space. Pace shall then reevaluate the space and determine whether it must be reclassified as a permit space, in accordance with other applicable provisions in this section

**Respiratory Protection Plan**

Weatherization professionals must wear proper personal protective equipment at all times while in a client’s home.

Pace currently does not have a Respiratory program; however, if needed, more detailed information will be given as well as videos provided to better help contractors and Weatherization staff understand their expectations and provisions.



Respirators are used to protect staff/contractors from inhaling hazardous substances in the air. These substances can be in the form of gases, vapors, mists or dust. We provide respirators for protection from airborne hazards. Information below displays how the proper respirators for particular hazards are selected and issued.

* When and how respirators will be used in routine work activities, infrequent activities, and foreseeable emergencies such as spill response, rescue or escape situations
* How medical evaluations of respirator user is provided
* How respirator fit testing is done
* How and when respirators in use are cleaned, stored, inspected and repaired or discarded
* How employees are trained about respiratory hazards
* How employees are trained on the proper use of the respirators
* How we evaluate the effectiveness of our respiratory program

Answers addressing the above questions will depend on the unique conditions. The information must be specific and reflect what you actually do or what is to be done, not just what seems like the right thing to do. It must describe actual conditions and actions.

To provide proper protection, respirators must be the right type, must be worn correctly at all times, and must be maintained properly. They are prone to leakage, dependent on the behavior of individual employee and will require maintenance and management oversight. This is why they are considered, as a last resort, to protect individuals from airborne hazards.

It is often more protective, less trouble, and less costly to eliminate or reduce the respiratory hazard through various ways such as exhaust ventilation, changes in process, or enclosure of the process. Sometimes the use of a hazardous material itself can be eliminated. When there is no alternative, this respiratory program will be implemented to protect Pace contractors from adverse health effects of exposure to hazardous materials in the air above their permissible exposure limits.

Respirators are typically used in three different situations – routine or regular exposure to processes or activities involving harmful substances, infrequent, but predictable occasions where there is exposure; or emergencies where there is a leak or spill. Our written respiratory program will address these situations if they occur or could occur at Pace or within our program. At that time, we would designate a as the “program administrator” - responsible for the whole program, and training for the respirator program administrator would be provided.