Patrick Clune
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Village Office
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Village Police: 607-749-2022
Newton Water Works: 607-749-2511
Glenwood Cemetery: 607-749-3517
Streets and Parks: 607-749-3813
Recreation: 607-749-2161
Codes: 607-745-3177
Homer Fire Department: 607-749-3121

Climbing, Falls, and Height Policy
Policy Approved April 11, 2023

Climbing and Height Policies

Policy Statement – Falls are among the most common causes of serious related injuries and deaths in the workplace. As such. OSHA requires that fall protection be provided at elevations of four feet in general industry workplaces, five feet in shipyards, six feet in the construction industry and eight feet in longshoring operations.

Procedures - The following guidelines have been established for meeting OSHA standards regarding preventing falls from climbing/ height issues.

1. The Village of Homer will comply with OSHA Standards for general industry 29 (CFR 1910) except in construction zones to ensure a safe workplace free of known dangers.

2. For construction zones, the Village of Homer will comply with construction industry 29 (CFR 1926) standards to ensure a safe workplace free from known dangers.

3. In addition to the standards above, no employee will climb eight feet or more without a harness, other OSHA required equipment, department head's approval, and another worker must be present. Fire department members in buckets on trucks will use ladder hose and follow all guidelines of the chief in charge or training officer in charge at the time.

4. All equipment used to ensure a safe workplace must be purchased by the Village of Homer and must remain in working condition. No personal harnesses, climbing equipment, or any related equipment will be used. It is the responsibility of the respective department head to ensure all required equipment is available needed to perform a job safely and to report defective equipment to the Village Offices to determine a plan to replace the equipment or to purchase what is needed for a job.

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5. Training will be provided by the Superintendent of Water and Sewer and the Superintendent of Streets and Parks. All employees working in the water and sewer department, department of public works, recreation working on fields preparation, cemetery, and any general workers providing related work will be required to sign off on reading the policy and attending any trainings provided. Copies of signoffs of policy and training will be given to the Village Offices to file in an employee's respective file. For fire department volunteers, training will be provided under the Chief responsible.

Failure to Comply with Policy – As the Village of Homer is concerned with providing a safe workplace, failure to comply with the policy will result in written writeups. Discipline can include termination or time off, even for first offenses, based on the severity of the offense.

Responsibility of Policy – It is the Board's responsibility to review the policy annually during an October meeting so the policy can be reviewed during annual employee training and open enrollment.