HEAT ILLNESS

Temperatures of 80 degrees
Fahrenheit or higher put all outdoor workers at risk. Risk increases with high humidity, sun exposure, high workload,

## Employers should establish a program to prevent heat illness.

- Provide one (1) quart of water per hour for each worker.
- Provide easy access to shade or air-conditioned space for breaks.
- Require breaks to cool down. Make more frequent and longer when it's hotter (5-20 minutes per hour.)
- Build workers' heat tolerance by gradually increasing workloads and allowing frequent breaks for new workers and those returning after a week or more off.
- Train workers to recognize symptoms of heat illness, what to do when they occur, and when to call 9-1-1.

## If a worker experiences:



## Take these actions:

Headache or nausea.

Weakness or dizziness.

Heavy sweating.

Elevated body temperature.

Thirst or decreased urine output.

Fainting, vomiting, or lightheaded.

Give water to drink.

Remove unnecessary clothing.

Move to a cooler area.

Cool with water, ice, or a fan.

Do not leave alone.

Seek medical care or call 9-1-1.

Heat Stroke: A worker experiencing loss of consciousness, disorientation, slurred or garbled speech, hallucinations, seizure is having HEAT STROKE. Call 911.

This is life-threatening and requires immediate medical attention. Move them to a cool place, remove unnecessary clothing and cool them down with water and ice as much as possible.

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR STANDARDS

& time outdoors.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov/heat

