

# HAZARD ALERT

CPWR [O]  
THE CENTER FOR CONSTRUCTION  
RESEARCH AND TRAINING

# SCAFFOLDS

## TIPS FOR SAFE WORK



## Am I in danger?

Every year, dozens of construction workers die in falls from scaffolds, and hundreds suffer injuries costing them days off work.



## How often are YOU on a scaffold?

## Falls are not the only thing that can kill you.



You need to be aware of overhead power lines. Keep your scaffold at least **10 ft. away**.

## Find out more about construction hazards.

Get more of these Hazard Alert cards – and cards on other topics.

Call **301-578-8500**

## To work safely...



PHOTO COURTESY GREATER PA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

### 1 Set all scaffolding on a solid, level base

Scaffolds must be set up with a solid base, decks that are level, and posts or legs that are plumb. The base of the scaffold should have screw jacks for leveling inserted in the legs of the scaffold, base plates (often part of the screw jack), and mud sills for added support.



PHOTO COURTESY GREATER PA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

### 2 Use Proper Fall Protection

If the working deck on your scaffold is 10 ft or higher, the law requires you to have some type fall protection. Fall protection may be a guardrail system or a Personal Fall Arrest System.\*

*\*Proper anchorage point, lanyard and harness.*



### 3 Check four points of scaffold safety

Before use, a **competent person** must check:

- The way to get on and off the scaffold meets OSHA rules for access.
- All work areas are fully planked or decked.
- All guardrails are installed properly or alternative fall protection is provided.
- Guys and ties to the building are all installed properly and in good condition.

## There are many types of scaffolds

Regardless of which type you are using, the employer must have a **qualified person** train all workers to safely use the scaffold.



**If you think you are in danger:**

Contact your supervisor.  
Contact your union.

Call OSHA  
**1-800-321-OSHA**