

# VLR SAFETY TAILGATE TALK

May 2016

*Subject: Hand Hygiene—Flood Waters*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (garage, mm, etc...):

**Instructions:**

Safety Coordinators & Supervisors should use this Tailgate Talk as a guide for discussion during their safety meetings. The primary purpose of the safety meetings is to give crews the opportunity to discuss any safety related concerns they may have.

Once the meeting has concluded, the Presenter should have each employee sign this form and include their Employee ID# in the spaces below.

TGT Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Employee

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	

Floodwater can be contaminated with microorganisms, sewage, industrial waste, chemicals and other substances that can cause illness or death.

**Wear Protective Gloves**

- Wear protective gloves when working in contaminated floodwaters, handling contaminated objects, or handling human or animal remains.
- Gloves should be heavy, cut-resistant, made of waterproof material (nitrile or similar washable material).

**Wash Hands with Soap and Warm, Clean (or disinfected) Water**

- After cleanup or decontamination work, before preparing or eating food and after toilet use.

**Wound Care**

- Wash wounds with soap and clean (or disinfected) water or a hand sanitizer immediately.
- Seek immediate medical attention if wound becomes red, swollen or oozes puss.

**Disinfecting Water for Hand Washing**

- Contaminated water can be bleach-disinfected by mixing 1/4 teaspoon of household bleach per 1 gallon of water.
- Let bleach-water mixture stand for 30 minutes.
- Label containers (e.g., “bleach disinfected water—DO NOT DRINK”).

### **Disinfecting Water for Tool/Surface Decontamination**

- It is preferable to use soap and clean water when available.
- If only contaminated water is available, prepare solution of 1/4 cup household bleach per 1 gallon of water.
- Prepare fresh solutions daily, preferably just before use.
- Label containers (e.g., “bleach disinfected water—DO NOT DRINK”).
- Warning: Bleach can damage firefighters’ turnout gear; consult manufacturer.

VTTC  
SAFETY

\*OSHA Quick Card