

Environmental Exposures

While we all look forward to working and playing outdoors, it also brings some unwelcome aspects including ticks, hazardous plants and our new friend the brown-tail moth. As spring arrives, the insects will be hatching and plants will be growing, but with some simple steps we can enjoy the outdoors.



Some simple precautions will help you avoid contact with insects and insect borne illness:

- Avoid walking through wooded and brushy areas with tall grass and leaf litter.
- Dress Appropriately: Wear light-colored long pants tucked into socks or boots.
- Use bug and tick repellents. When using repellents always follow product directions.
- Consider using products that contain permethrin to treat clothing and gear. Do not apply permethrin directly to your skin.

Avoiding Exposures to Hazardous Plants

- Familiarize yourself to the area and what flora you might encounter.
- Never touch plants and then touch your mouth, nose, eyes or any open wounds.
- Dormant plants can still cause a rash.
- If in doubt avoid contact.



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In Your Inbox

MMA Risk Management Services invites you to participate in the **Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program**. The Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program (WCSIP) is an exclusive cost saving tool for MMA Workers' Compensation Fund Members. Enrollment in WCSIP has increased to 140 participants, and the annual total credit savings for those participants was \$1,936,648 in 2025. If you have not joined this program and realized savings for your entity, now is the time. We encourage you to review this program and see how simple it is to participate and how fast you can start saving money for your community. All that you need to do to join WCSIP is to send us:

1. **The Acknowledgment on or before July 1, 2025.**
2. **The Resolve is due on or before August 1, 2025.**
3. **The Verification for Tier Assignment form will due to us on or before September 1, 2025**
4. **Look forward to the savings to come!**

Each qualifying member may receive an incentive credit up to 10%. The program is tiered into three levels based on documented performance which provide associated credits of:

Tier I.....	5%
Tier II.....	7.5%
Tier III.....	10%

The goals of this program are to provide financial rewards for safety while reducing the incidence of injury and illness throughout the operations and improving overall safety in the work environment. To download the forms or to obtain complete program details please select the following link: [Save with WCSIP!](#)

New NEOGOV Ergonomic Assessment Tool

MMA's Online University now has a new tool in the proverbial toolbox which you may find useful – an Office Ergonomic Self-Assessment Program. The Ergonomic Self-Assessment helps the user determine if their chair, keyboard, mouse and monitor are a good fit or if they need to make some adjustments and changes to their set up.

Users should be able to move through the interactive program in less than half an hour as the program both informs and prompts users in the best way to adjust their workstation. Upon completion a report is generated listing out areas which may need to be corrected.



Loss Control Consultant Jason Johnson has used the program several times.

"I really like this program as it covers all of the bases in an easy-to-understand manner," says Johnson. "I could see Members using this program as a pre-screening tool to see if their employees have any potential problems and then following up with a face-to-face assessment if needed."

To use the Office Ergonomic Self-Assessment tool, log on to NeoGov- On Line University, access the course catalog, search for "Office Ergonomics. - Self Assessment" and enroll.