

INTRODUCTION

1. General. This Occupational Safety and Health Manual implements one of the elements of the National Weather Service (NWS) Occupational Safety and Health Program defined in NWS Policy Directive NWSPD-50-11, Occupational Safety and Health. The manual includes 32 safety procedures developed in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, Department of Commerce Safety Manual and other Federal agencies safety and health standards (e.g., Department of Transportation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)). When no published OSHA standards existed, Guidance was derived from nationally recognized organizations (e.g., the National Fire Protection Association, American Conference of Industrial Hygienists, American National Standards Institute, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health). In the absence of any published standards, guidance was developed to govern unique NWS activities.

2. Applicability. These procedures are applicable to NWS facilities, operations, and personnel (e.g., employees, contractors, visitors) and shall be implemented as directed by NWSPD-50-11. When NWS operations are conducted at another organization's site (e.g., Government agency, university), NWS safety requirements and procedures shall be followed unless the hosting organization's requirements and procedures pre-empt as determined in the lease agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, etc.

3. Manual Matrix. Each section of the manual consists of a table of contents, one-page summary (synopsis), checklist, and full text of the procedure. The summary highlights the most important aspects of the procedure and may be used by Station Managers as an overview for procedure implementation. The checklist should be used at least annually or, as needed, to review for compliance. In addition, examples, where available, of site-specific (WFO Springfield, MO) applications of the procedures are included as attachments to those procedures.

4. References. A list of specific references to regulations, standards, and guidelines is included in each procedure.