



**AGC**  
WEST TEXAS CHAPTER  
THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

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November 18, 2021

## West Texas AGC News & Resources

### Safety Tips: Safe Driving / Driving Distractions



*The holidays are an important time to remind employees of safe driving practices. More fatal accidents occur off the job than during working hours. Use the **free webinars** provided on the links below and the TDI - Driving Distraction Sheets at your meetings to remind everyone of their responsibilities behind the wheel. The one they drive for the company and the one they own.*

#### Upcoming Live Sessions

- November 17: Backing Up Safely
- December 9: Impaired Driving, Emerging Trends and the Occupational Arena
- January 25: Transportation Safety: Changing Norms and Decreasing Risk
- February 10: Coaching the Coach

#### Driver Behavior Micro E-Learning

#### Watch On-Demand Webinars

[Visit - Our Driving Concern for More Dates & Registration](#)

[Driving Distractions - English](#)

[Driving Distractions - Spanish](#)

### **FREE** Online Trenching & Excavation Safety Training

AGC of America, supported by a Susan Harwood Federal Training Grant, is pleased to offer this one-day Trenching & Excavation Hazards in Construction safety training based on OSHA standards and best practices to answer the need for quality training within the industry. Classes will be delivered virtually via Zoom Meetings and attendees will have the opportunity to earn continuing education credits (0.8 IACET CEUs).

**Courses are from November 10th through December 14th from 10M - 6PM ET.**

**Register Here:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCT7HPF>.

You will be emailed a Zoom Meeting link closer to the training date you select.

[Information, Dates & Registration](#)



On Wednesday, OSHA officially announced via a posting to their website that, “While OSHA remains confident in its authority to protect workers in emergencies, ...

***OSHA has suspended activities related to the implementation and enforcement of the ETS pending future developments in the litigation.***

Yesterday, the US judicial panel on multidistrict litigation randomly selected the US Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit to consolidate all petitions. In all, there were 34 petitions in 12 different circuits.

**AGC will continue to be prudent and identify opportunities to assist chapters and members with compliance in the event the DOL prevails.**

**MOST CONTRACTORS REPORT SIGNIFICANT FLAWS WITH THE NATION’S 811 UTILITY LOCATION SYSTEM, CITING INACCURATE LOCATES AND SLOW RESPONSE TIMES**

*More than Half of Firms Report Damages and Near Misses With Utility Lines After Using the 811 Service Because Lines Were Unmarked or Marked Incorrectly; Most Firms Want to Be Involved in Local 811 Boards*



There are significant flaws with the current 811 utility location system according to a new [survey](#) of construction firms that perform any kind of underground excavation released by the Associated General Contractors of America today. Most contractors say that calling 811 often leads to inaccurate line marking and that utility firms are often very slow in coming out to even do locate and mark their underground lines.

“Construction firms are doing their part to avoid hitting utility lines, but the current 811 system appears to be badly flawed,” said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association’s chief executive officer. “Fixing the 811 system will go a long way in protecting the safety of construction crews and the communities near these utility lines.”

The 811 survey was conducted in late August and September. Five hundred twenty construction firms responded to the survey, representing virtually every type of excavation activity in the industry.

**[811 Underground Utility Safety and Damage Prevention Survey](#)**

[View the complete survey results here.](#)

[Read Complete News Release](#)

**AGC-Backed Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Becomes Law**

***Members send nearly 100,000 messages to Congress to make it happen!***

On Monday, November 15, President Biden signed the AGC-backed Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), into law. This bill will become law after a determined effort by AGC and its members—sending nearly 100,000 messages to Congress—to push it over the top. As a reminder, AGC put together this summary and also this myth v. fact document. Additionally, a breakdown of what's in the bill for each construction market can be found here: Highway Contractors; Utility Contractors; Direct Federal Contractors; Building Contractors; and Other Markets (Transit, Rail, Waterways, Airports). [Read More](#)

## The American labor market, business and the post-pandemic economy



Widespread labor shortages are hampering companies' ability to capitalize on an economy that is expanding as the country recovers from a devastating pandemic. Companies will not experience a return to the way things were in the labor markets before the pandemic.

The retirement of baby boomers, lingering challenges associated with the pandemic and a “you only live once” philosophy among many younger workers are driving a structural shift in the labor market away from the conditions that prevailed since the 1980s.

Now employers are wooing workers with improved pay, flexible work arrangements, state-of-the-art technology and better employee treatment. And these changes are just the beginning of what is a significant shift in the American workforce.

Middle market businesses across industries are finding themselves on the challenging end of the labor issue, as they try to ascertain how to navigate the shocks unleashed by the pandemic.

To understand these new dynamics, we have to examine the frictions in the labor market.

That starts with the undeniable fact that not only are there not enough workers, but companies are also struggling with high turnover rates and constant employee poaching from competing businesses within market niches and those outside traditional competitive ecosystems.

That dynamic is almost certainly organized around the growing role of technology inside the production of goods and provision of services that is transferring power away from management and to labor.

[Read More](#)

DON'T MISS THIS TEXAS-SIZED EVENT

# AGC 2022 THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION CONVENTION



03/28/2022 - 03/31/2022

**REGISTER NOW**

## The 2022 AGC Annual Convention is coming to TEXAS March 28th – 31st

The premier construction convention will be in our backyard. Catch up with your industry peers in Grapevine next March to stay up-to-date with cutting-edge construction trends. .

*Find out more and Register at <https://convention.agc.org/>*

**The early bird registration deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>**



***Evaluate ways to save on a regular basis and maintain a competitive advantage ABOVE the competition.***

Your West Texas AGC membership provides benefits and programs combined with those at AGC of America, giving members access to high-quality services such as insurance, 401(k), cutting-edge technology and top-of-the-

line products. From discounts on vehicles to office supplies to cloud-based construction management solutions.

We have partnered with some of the best to give you the most for your money and improve your daily business operations.

*When it comes to your company's bottom-line, your membership in AGC pays dividends.*

**West Texas AGC Discounts**

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**West Texas AGC | your Chapter • AGC | your Association**  
*Working together on your behalf, to be the most professional and profitable company,  
in your specialized field and area of expertise*  
**AGC of America • The Construction Association**

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