

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Respirable Crystalline Silica

### 1910.1053 Subpart Z

This document presents a brief overview and summary of the official written program. The official program is a comprehensive guide to assist District staff in complying with the requirements of the OSHA standard.

#### PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:

To minimize respirable crystalline silica exposure by providing engineered controls, person protective equipment (PPE), and training to all persons working within areas that contain respirable crystalline silica.

#### PROCEDURES:

##### General Requirements

- ESG responsible for communicating and implementing all aspects of the program.

##### Exposure Assessment

- ESG will conduct exposure assessments in areas that are reasonably expected to contain high respirable silica levels.

##### Hazard Communication

- ESG will make available container labels and safety data sheets for containers of crystalline silica.
- Any area that contains an action level of respirable crystalline silica ( $25\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  in an 8-hour time weight average) that cannot be mitigated by engineered controls, administrative controls, or personal protective equipment will be considered a regulated area. Only employees with respirable crystalline silica training will be permitted in a regulated area. All measures shall be taken before demarcating an area as a regulated area.

##### Engineered Controls & PPE

- ESG will provide engineered controls to employees with respirable crystalline silica exposure. Engineered controls will meet Table 1 of CFR 1926.1153 (pg. 524).
- If engineered and administrative controls are deemed impossible for any area above the action level for respirable crystalline silica, PPE will be provided.
- PPE may include respiratory protection, which shall meet the requirements of the St. Paul Public School's Respiratory Protection written program 024.

##### Housekeeping

- Dry brushing or dry sweeping will be avoided unless no other cleaning method is feasible.
- Cleaning of surfaces or clothing with compressed air will be avoided unless the compressed air is used together with a ventilation system that effectively captures the dust cloud or no other cleaning method is feasible.
- Wet sweeping or HEPA-filtered vacuuming are preferred methods of housekeeping.

##### Employee Training

- ESG will provide Silica Awareness training to employees exposed to respirable silica every 3 years.
- Silica Awareness refresher will be covered in Employee Right To Know (ERTK) training.

#### RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS:

##### Records:

- Maintained by ESG and available upon request.
- Contact Information: Environmental Services Group | 651-744-1800  
Web Site: <https://www.spps.org/Page/3470> | Email: [ESG@spps.org](mailto:ESG@spps.org)