# SAFETYMATTERS

JULY/AUGUST 2021

#### **MOPAR SITE WORK**

Strong planning makes challenging sitework go smoothly

**Mopar/Stellantis, Toledo -** Mopar's new 250,000-square-foot vehicle customization facility is being constructed on a brownfield site, the one-time location of a textile leather factory.

**RLG's site management team** performed the complicated sitework successfully.

The well-planned process was coordinated with the customer, state and local environmental agencies, the city of Toledo and regional testing experts.

RLG pumped 1.5 million gallons of water into storage tanks to allow testing to ensure that the water met environmental requirements before being discharged into the sanitary sewer system.

To comply with environmental requirements, all soil was kept on site and placed in large mounds which will be capped. Snow fencing was erected around a contaminated area to restrict access.

**RLI** and **GEM** performed earthwork, foundations and underground utilities.

"This was one of the most difficult sitework jobs we've had because of the high organic content of the soil, which required us to stabilize the entire site," says **Matt Dickens**, RLG project manager.

"There was constant communication between everyone on site as to how and when to move the soil," he says.



#### **COMPELLED CHURCH**

#### Keeping the church open through emergency repairs

**Compelled Church, Temperance** - When a delivery truck struck the church canopy in December 2020, it caused structural damage to the canopy, main entrance and vestibule.

**Pastor Nate Elarton** called a friend - **Mike Keane**, RLI's director of field operations.

The pastor was impressed with the team's responsiveness - and their determination to keep the church open.

"The day I called Mike, he got the engineer out there and the crew to stabilize the front of the canopy because it was leaning at 4 degrees," Elarton says.

**Dalton Landers**, RLI account manager, and **Brian Wingate**, RLI superintendent, assessed the damage with Poggemeyer

Design Group, who developed a bracing plan for the damaged structure.

"We could still use the entrance at Christmas," Elarton says. "If we hadn't been able to use the front entrance, we would have had to close the church."

The repairs included an upgrade with LED lights, motion sensors and new siding for the canopy and church entrance. The changes are very popular with the congregation as well as the pastor and board.

Elarton adds, "I've been involved in building programs before, and I had never worked with Rudolph Libbe. Dalton and Brian were communicating perfectly with me. They almost over-communicated, and I didn't expect that from a big company."





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#### **FIND IT-FIX IT**

#### Report your 'finds' and 'fixes' to keep safety top-of-mind

**Unsafe behavior:** Someone was walking within the swing radius of an excavator. **Solution:** An associate told that person to leave the radius area.

**Unsafe condition:** Conbustible materials were underneath a worker who was burning and welding.

**Solution:** An associate removed the combustible material from under the worker.

**Unsafe behavior:** A worker was on the third floor, 45 feet high, with one foot on a ladder and the other in a demo'ed window. No temporary railing had been installed.

**Solution:** An associate told the worker to put the temporary railing back on and wear a harness.

**Unsafe condition:** A scissor lift boomed down on an extension cord.

**Solution:** An associate notified the electrician and the lift was raised and removed.

**Unsafe behavior:** A subcontractor was grinding with no face shield or handle on the grinder.

**Solution:** An associate stopped the subcontractor and did not let him continue working until he had the proper PPE and handle on the grinder.

**Unsafe behavior:** A laborer was raking concrete and not paying attention to his surroundings. He was almost struck by

wire mesh being placed by rod busters. **Solution:** An associate stopped the laborer and rod buster, made them aware of the situation, told them to communiate and pay attention to their surroundings.

**Unsafe condition:** An associate asked the superintendent if there was water on site for the crew with the hot weather, and there was not.

**Solution:** The associate got water and ice for the crew.

**Unsafe behavior:** A subcontractor was setting up a ladder in front of a wood stake marking a transformer pad. **Solution:** An associate had the subcontractor set up the ladder in a location away from the wood stake and explained to him why that created a hazard.

**Unsafe condition:** A worker was ready to hang drywall. An associate checked the studs and found they were off by 1 inch. **Solution:** The associate had the worker move the drywall to the proper location before hanging it.

**Unsafe behavior:** A subcontractor left a stepladder in front of a door, unattended with tools on top of it.

**Solution:** An associate took the tools off the ladder, told the subcontractor not to leave objects on it, and explained that this caused a hazard of falling objects if the ladder was bumped.

### ARE YOU HYDRATED ENOUGH?

Staying hydrated is essential, regardless of the weather.

#### Even if it's not hot outside:

- Drink at least eight glasses of water a day.
- Start drinking plenty of water before work starts.
- Drink water throughout the day

   don't wait until you're thirsty.
- Working hard and sweating?
   Drink extra water.
- Avoid caffeinated drinks (coffee, tea, energy drinks and pop).

#### **Dehydration symptoms**

The color of urine can signal dehydration. Urine should be pale yellow.

If urine is bright or dark yellow, orange or brownish, it can mean you're not drinking enough water.

Other symptoms of dehydration:

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Weakness
- Fatigue
- Loss of balance
- Muscle cramps

#### What to do?

If you notice any of these symptoms, especially combined with dark urine:

- Stop working and get out of the sun.
- Loosen your clothes.
- Sit down and rest.
- Take sips of water.

If your symptoms don't go away or worsen, seek medical help immediately.

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