

## National Youth Safety Essay Scholarship Contest Winner

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Hello, my name is Logan Donohoo and I completed the OSHA 10-hour Construction Industry Training and have learned invaluable lessons from it. What is the value of a human life? This is a question most people do not think about when plugging a drill into an outlet or climbing up a ladder onto a roof. OSHA 10-hour safety training has made me realize how fragile life is and how important it is to always be aware and safe in the workplace. It has made me realize all of the hazards that could potentially kill with the snap of a finger.

To begin, nobody thinks about it when they go to plug a plug into the wall. That plug could have worn insulation and the user could be electrocuted. Or the person climbing the ladder, could have one of the legs sitting on an uneven rock, the person could fall. Now, whenever I pick up an electrical cord, I check it to make sure it is in good condition, that it has a ground prong, and that it is not frayed. When I climb up a ladder, I check to make sure it is on steady ground, that it is stable, and that it has strong supports. OSHA has also given good tips and warnings on driving that have really made me think more responsibly on the operation of motor vehicles. I drive mostly on country roads and was not aware that they are much more dangerous than city roads. It has taught me to look out for animals crossing the road and vehicles driving recklessly. Also, OSHA has made me more aware of fall hazards in and around the workplace. It has made me see the puddle in the middle of the floor differently than I had before. Now, stepping around it and reporting it to my supervisor rather than ignoring and assuming someone else will take care of it.

Moving on, one of the most valuable lessons I have learned from the OSHA 10 safety training is the proper use of PPE. I am now much more conscientious about wearing safety glasses when operating power tools and wearing gloves. I learned that it only takes one time for a piece of debris from a sander or a saw to make you blind. It also informed me on the various types of hard hats you must choose from in order to suit the job you are doing. I never realized how many different types of fire extinguishers there are and the many different uses for each of them. Using a water fire extinguisher on an electrical or grease fire would almost certainly prove fatal.

And perhaps most importantly the OSHA 10 hour safety training course will help me in the future with not only getting a job, but staying safe and protected during it. Safety issues that I never would have thought of before, now are the first things I notice, which is what future employers are looking for in an employee. When applying for a job in the future, an employer would be delighted to see that the applicant has already completed OSHA 10 and will know that that employee would be less of a liability because they are trained in what to do in emergency situations and how to prevent them.

Finishing up, OSHA training course has taught me priceless lessons that quite possibly may save my life someday. It makes me think twice before doing a risky or reckless action. Human life cannot have a price put on it and is more fragile than people think. Shortcuts that can potentially jeopardize the lives of you or your coworkers should not be taken, and all safety precautions should be followed at all times, no exceptions.