

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

## Montana Contractors' Association Newsletter

September 23, 2011



## Safety Alert: Nail Guns

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health have developed new guidance, [Nail Gun Safety -- A Guide for Construction Contractors](#), to help construction employers and workers prevent work-related nail gun injuries.



## MCA Members Encouraged to Apply for AGC Safety Award

The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) is happy to announce the 13th annual Construction Safety Excellence Awards (CSEA) program. This awards program is the industry's elite safety excellence awards program which recognizes companies that have developed and implemented premier safety and loss prevention programs while achieving continuous improvements and maintenance of their safety and health management systems.

The deadline for submitting the application to national AGC is by COB December 9, 2011. You can

### Quick Links

[MCA Newsletter](#)

[MCA Training Page](#)

[MCA Website](#)

### Calendar

Sep 27-28  
SWPPP Administrator Certification  
Billings  
[Registration](#)

Oct 19  
Highway Technical Committee  
Helena, MCA Office  
9:00 am

Oct 20  
Bid-Letting  
MDT, Helena  
9:00 am

Nov 3  
BIM 101  
Helena  
[Registration](#)

Nov 9-10  
ACI Flatwork Finisher Certification  
Missoula  
[Registration](#)

Nov 17-18  
ACI Field Testing Technician  
Bozeman  
[Registration](#)

download the [application form](#) here, or access the application by visiting [www.agc.org/csea](http://www.agc.org/csea).



## MCA Officers Return From Nation's Capital

President Tony Martel, Vice President Russ Olsen, and Executive Director Cary Hegreberg were in Washington, D.C. this week for the annual AGC Leadership Conference. In addition to learning about how to be more effective chapter leaders, they met with staff from Montana's Congressional delegation and emphasized issues important to MCA members, such as repealing the 3 percent withholding law, fully funding the Federal Highway Program, and rebuilding the nation's infrastructure.

Senator Tester is considering support for repealing the 3% withhold law as a result of contacts he's received from MCA members.



## Highway Tech Meetings to be Held at MCA Office

MDT specifications officials this week agreed that future meetings of the joint MCA/MDT Highway Technical Committee will be held at the MCA office each month.

All MCA members are welcome to attend, and if you would like to be on the notification list, please contact [Edie](#) at the MCA office, 406-442-4162.



## Pipeline Safety Leads to Another Attempt to Revise Montana "Dig Law"

Renewed efforts at the federal level ([click here](#) for article) are pushing Montana pipeline owners to seek revisions to Montana's Dig Law that would increase

### Quote of the Week

"Experience: that most brutal of teachers. But you learn, my God, do you learn."

- C. S. Lewis

### Header Info

Crews from Sletten Construction work on the bridge over I-90 at Three Forks. If you have pictures you'd like to see headline the e-brief, send them to [keith@mtagc.org](mailto:keith@mtagc.org).

penalties for excavators who fail to call before they dig and for repeat offenders. The MCA is involved in preliminary stakeholder meetings to begin drafting legislation for the 2013 Legislature, and an interim legislative committee has requested involvement in the process. The MCA was instrumental in providing input to a similar effort prior to the 2011 Legislature, when utility interests abandoned the effort because they could not come to agreement on a new administrative oversight structure. It appears the effort will have much more emphasis and more diverse involvement this time, so stay tuned as we produce draft information for your review.

For those MCA members who would like to see what pipeline owners are calling for in state "dig laws," [click here](#).



## Newton to Represent MCA at Keystone Pipeline Public Meeting

MCA Director Mike Newton of Fisher Sand and Gravel in Glendive, will speak on behalf of the MCA as a proponent of permitting the Keystone XL Pipeline during the September 27 public meeting in Glendive scheduled by the U.S. State Department. The massive project would bring oil from Canada to refineries in southern U.S., and involves a large "on-ramp" for Montana/North Dakota oil to be constructed at Baker, MT. [Click here](#) for more information on the project and to submit comments in favor of the project.



## Small Business Workshop in Butte

Senator Jon Tester today announced that his next Small Business Opportunity Workshop will focus on helping Montana businesses find and secure contracting opportunities. The October 7 workshop in Butte will be Tester's ninth small business workshop.

Tester's event, at the War Bonnet Inn, will connect small businesses to numerous government agencies and contractors. The workshop will also feature a roundtable discussion with representatives from industry leaders such as Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman.

The first session, Marketing Your Product to the Federal Government, will focus on basic contracting strategy as well as helpful tools for established contractors. Later sessions will address unique opportunities for small businesses run by women and veterans.

In addition, the workshop will feature extensive networking opportunities with federal and state procurement officials and major aerospace and defense contractors.

Tester's workshop is free and open to the public. Montanans interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP at [www.testersenate.gov/workshop](http://www.testersenate.gov/workshop).



## Help us Repeal the Onerous 3% Withholding Law

MCA members are urged to keep the repeal of 3 percent government withholding in the forefront.

House Republican leadership has identified repeal of the 3 percent government withholding mandate as a priority this fall and may consider the legislation as early as October. They are including the repeal legislation as part of their jobs agenda for the fall. Currently there are 232 - a majority - of House members including Denny Rehberg, who have signed on as cosponsors of H.R. 674, a bill to repeal 3 percent government withholding.

While passage of 3 percent government withholding repeal is expected in the House when it comes up for a vote, the Senate has yet to schedule debate on similar legislation there despite a record 29 cosponsors.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! [Click here](#) to send a message to Senators Baucus and Tester, via the AGC's Legislative Affairs website. It only takes a

couple of minutes, but it will directly affect you for years.



## Our Mission

To help our member companies become the best construction firms in Montana.



[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to ehallford@mtagc.org by [keith@mtagc.org](mailto:keith@mtagc.org) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Montana Contractors Association | 1717 11th Avenue | Helena | MT | 59601