## **District 7 News**

Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Clarendon, Hampton and Orangeburg counties

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## Got news?

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Danny Simmons



## **Electrical Awareness Training**

Crews encouraged to look for overhead dangers

orking with or near power lines can expose workers to electrical hazards, but these dangers can be avoided through safe work practices.

Crews should conduct a hazard assessment to identify and address potential safety hazards before work begins. Between 2011 and 2020, 39 percent of all electrically related workplace fatalities were caused by overhead power lines. In the majority of these cases, fatalities occurred in occupations with little to no electrical safety training. In 2016, 53 percent of all fatal electrical injuries occurred in the construction industry.

Employees should be provided with a constant reminder to work safely near power lines. These practical guidelines can prevent injuries from contact with power lines. Always conduct a job hazard assessment to identify and address potential safety hazards before work begins.

- 1. Locate all overhead power lines
- 2. Keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away (as voltage increases- distance increases) from all overhead power lines
- 3. Never not touch anything that is in contact with the power line
  - 4. Beware of fencing near power lines
- 5. Carry ladders and other equipment horizontally
- 6. Lower equipment apparatus (boom's, buckets, truck beds, etc.) before driving
  - 7. Never spray water near power lines
- 8. Stay at least 35 feet away from downed power lines and wait for clearance from the electric company and unit management
- 9. Know the safe working distance for workers and equipment

When you're on a job site, remember to always look up, always – it can save your life



Foreman Ashton Walker reviews the Job Hazard Analysis form with Barnwell Maintenance employees Mike Jones, Zaviell Faust and Travis Grubbs.

## Walt Holladay celebrates 50 years of service

alt Holladay first joined the South Carolina Department of Transportation on Nov. 7, 1970. In his initial position, Highway Maintenance Worker II, he worked with bridges and concrete in Clarendon County on what would now be called a specialty crew. He was then promoted to Mowing Foreman in Clarendon County and held that position for six years.

Holladay then transferred to Calhoun County and continued there in his position as mowing foreman for four years. In 1984, Holladay became Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer at Orangeburg Maintenance. One year later he was appointed Resident Maintenance Engineer (RME) there. He later served as Assistant Construction Engineer in Barnwell County for approximately three years and then became the Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer at Colleton Maintenance. In 2005, he became the RME at Colleton Maintenance.

Holladay then retired from the department. His retirement lasted one year. Upon returning to

SCDOT, he worked at Richland Maintenance until November 2020.

He then returned to Orangeburg Maintenance and is currently serving as the Resident Maintenance Engineer at Orangeburg Maintenance. When asked what are some of the most significant changes seen over the years he stated how the communication and cooperation between the districts and the counties has greatly improved, along with the ability to share resources.

Holladay also stated that he is extremely grateful for the relationships, and friendships and knowledge experienced through the years here at the department.

Holladay lives in Neeses along with his wife, Deborah. They have three children: Derrick, Deanna and Darcy. His hobbies include spending quality time with his family, especially his grandchildren Abigail and Elijah.

Congratulations on 50 years of service to the South Carolina Department of Transportation Resident Maintenance Engineer Walt Holladay!



District 7 Engineering Administrator Jeff Terry, left, and District 7 Maintenance Engineer Efrem Dantzler, right, present Walt Holladay with a sign recognizing his 50 years of service.