

# HYDRAFLOW QUARTERLY

Issue 92

*Keeping you informed*

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In this issue:

Charity Step Challenge....1  
Safety Page.....2

## Charity Step Challenge!

The Hydraflow Charity Step Challenge took place from October 1st through October 10th. There were 5 teams competing for a chance to give the charity of their choice a \$500 donation.

The challenge participants did over 3,000,000 steps during the 10 day chal-

lenge, with the Steppin to Charity Team coming out on top (pictured to the left with their trophies!) They divided up their donation between Moustaches for Kids and Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Youth Football Inc!

Looking to make your own impact? Hydraflow will once again be purchasing \$10 charity gift cards for all employees! These cards can be redeemed to support up to 3 different charities of your choice.

The cards will be handed out around the Thanksgiving holiday.



## Hydraflow's 2024 Scholarship Program is live!

Hydraflow's 2024 scholarship application window is now open! Four awards of \$5,000 will be given to four children or grandchildren who meet the eligibility requirements and submit the necessary documentation. Due to IRS guidelines the program can only award 1 scholarship per 5 completed application, so our goal is to get 20 applicants in order to award 4 scholarship!

To be a candidate for scholarship students must apply online <https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/hydraflowscholarship>

### Applicants to the Hydraflow Scholarship award must:

- Be a dependent\* child OR grandchild, age 26 and under, of full time Hydraflow employees who have a minimum of one year employment with the company as of the application deadline date.  
*\*Dependent children are defined as biological, step- or legally adopted children living in the employee's household or primarily supported by the employee. Grandchildren of employees do not need to be dependent of the employee.*
- Be high school seniors or graduates or current college undergraduates.
- Plan to enroll in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school for the entire upcoming academic year.

**Deadline is apply is November 15 by 1 pm**

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# SAFETY PAGE



## Workplace Fire Safety Talk

*By: Insurance Company of the West*



### What's At Stake?

No matter the size or sector of your business, the potential for workplace fires is present. The risk is likely higher in more industrial operations such as welding, but a small paper fire or electrical short can also ignite a devastating fire inside an office building.

### What's the Danger?

#### COMMON CAUSES OF WORKPLACE FIRES

**Defective Electrical Equipment:** Defective electrical equipment can present significant danger to workers and business. Imperfect/loose wiring, faulty/old equipment and overloaded sockets can cause sparks or overheating and thus fire. All electrical equipment in your workplace should be well maintained and regularly tested.

**Flammable/Combustible Materials:** Any premises that holds flammable materials like paper, wood and cardboard needs to make sure that they are managed appropriately. If these combustible materials are allowed to build up, they can act as fuel and help any small fire outbreak to escalate. Appropriate storage, disposal and handling processes of these materials is essential.

**Smoking:** Smoking should take place at least a few meters away from buildings. Cigarettes can easily set light to nearby flammable materials like leaves, papers and other items found in rubbish bins.

**Negligence & Human Error:** Negligence and human error are other major causes of fire in the workplace. The risk of this can be reduced by making sure staff are fully aware of the workplace guidelines to follow. Regular refresher training should also be provided to staff to remind them of fire risks and how to mitigate them.

**Faulty Fire Detection Alarms:** Although fire detection alarms and systems are not a direct cause of fire, failure to frequently inspect, maintain and service them can lead to large, uncontrollable fires. By making sure your alarms are working as they should be, you can rest assured that they'll notify you in the early stages of a fire.

**Cooking Equipment:** Burning food, leaving cooking equipment unsupervised and the use of combustible materials present risks, so it's important the correct procedures are implemented and followed.

**Untidy & Dirty Workplace:** Workplaces that are untidy and cluttered are much more susceptible to fires. Overloaded rubbish bins and poorly ventilated areas, assist fires to grow. Forgetting to clean equipment and letting dust build up can cause machinery to overheat.

**Arson:** A common cause of workplace fires is arson. Industrial and commercial businesses can be targeted if the building is often left unattended for long periods of time. Installing cameras around the property can act as a deterrent to any lurking criminals.

### Final Word

Every organization is vulnerable to workplace fires. Depending on the nature of your team's work, specific structures, and industry considerations, assess your potential fire hazards and develop and adhere to your fire safety plan accordingly.