

A 44 year old male was fatality stung by a wasp while he was attempting to install satellite tv wiring under a mobile home trailer.

The victim was assigned to install satellite tv at a mobile home. He had arrived on site at by himself and did a quick survey of the site with the Homeowner to determine if there were any hazards and where he would gain access to the underside of the trailer. No wasps were noted during the walk around of the trailer.

The victim determined to remove the skirt of the trailer near the front deck and access the area from there to install equipment. The victim had completed most of his job by 12 PM and stated to the homeowner that he had seen some wasps in the area near where he had entered. He was wearing a Tyvek suit throughout the installation. As the victim finished the install, he came out from under the trailer and pulled off his Tyvek suit to his waist and tied it off. At about this time the homeowner stated that he heard the victim yell out that he had been stung by a wasp and went outside to see if he was ok. The victim was in the yard in front of the trailer and stated that he had been stung by a wasp in the elbow area and that he was not feeling well. The owner told him that he needed to sit down on the porch in the shade and he would get him water. At this point the victim walked up to the steps and collapsed. The victim's arm started to swell, and the victim stated that he could not breathe, then passed out. The homeowner called 911 however due to the rural location, the ambulance had a hard time finding the place. It took the ambulance approximately 20 minutes to arrive at the mobile home. The victim was transported to the hospital where he was determined to have suffer serious brain injury due to lack of oxygen from a cardiac arrest.

It was noted during the inspection and interviews, employees had received training in regard to attics/crawl spaces & stinging insects prior to the incident. Wasps and other stinging insects are more active in the middle of the day when its warm, and less active between dusk and dawn when temperatures are cooler. During the onsite inspection, documentation was provided as well as corroboration through employee interviews, that the affected employee was onsite had received the training about stinging insects and attic & crawl spaces.

**Citation(s) as Originally Issued**

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

**Citation 1 Item 1**

**Type of Violation: Serious**

**\$3150**

**29 CFR 1910.268(c)(3):** Training provided did not include first aid training, including instruction in artificial respiration.

The employer did not provide first aid training, including artificial respiration training to employees of the establishment who work with telecommunication equipment and services.





23 Stung By wasp—Insp # 1682697 Satellites Unlimited, LLC

