

WORKING SAFELY ON AND AROUND WATER RESERVOIRS AND DAMS

This session will pertain to working safely on and around water reservoirs and dams. Over the past 65 years there have been approximately 555 fatalities related to dams in the United States. These are only recordable fatalities. Additionally on average, there are 2.01 fatalities at every dam site throughout the country. This poses a high risk for the safety of not only the general public but also individuals working on and around dams, whether it be constructing, debris maintenance or repairing.

During this session we will discuss: recreational fatalities vs work related fatalities, different structural dams and their engineering components, proper safety procedures in relation to working on and around water reservoirs and applicable OSHA standards in relation to water operations. We will also dissect significant OSHA case files that pertain to injuries and fatalities in and on water. Hazards associated with swimming, diving, skiff/boating work related activities will also be highlighted.

Presenter: SIMIRJEET SINGH, SAFETY COMPLIANCE OFFICER, VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Simirjeet Singh, or Simrin as she goes by was born and raised in Northern Virginia. She attended Old Dominion University for her undergraduate studies and acquired her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health and Occupational Safety in 2018.

Simrin interned at the Hampton Roads Sanitation District for her last year of undergrad and then began work with the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry as an OSHA Safety Compliance Officer upon graduation. Simrin has been with the agency working in the Northern Virginia Manassas Office but has recently relocated to the Norfolk Regional Office to continue her studies, as she is pursuing her Masters in Public Health: Global Environmental Health.

In her free time Simrin enjoys visiting family, traveling and spending time with her dogs.