If you’re waiting until something has already occurred to make a change, it’s too late.”

Michelle Garner-Janna, director of corporate health and safety for Cummins Inc., a manufacturing company out of Indiana, supports the use of leading indicators in their safety program because they help their business plan ahead instead of waiting for something bad to happen before action is taken.

Leading indicators measure safety events before an incident occurs. The formal definition, as determined by the National Safety Council is: “Proactive, preventative, and predictive measures that monitor and provide current information about the effective performance, activities, and processes of an EHS management system that can drive the identification and elimination or control of risks in the workplace that can cause incidents and injuries.”

Another simpler way to put it is, “Leading indicators are measurements of safety events or behaviors that precede incidents and have a predictive quality.”

This is nothing new for the UWRF Safety Committee. Each year they work on 10-12 goals that can be classified as leading indicators.

Here is an overview of some of the work:

**Building safety tours** and diligent follow up on action items is one way to reduce the potential for adverse events on campus. During the last year, 17 tours were performed in campus buildings with over 200 action items identified.

**Employee safety training** is a given for reducing the potential for injury. Each month there is a different safety focus with training sessions offered either in a classroom setting or online. Drills (fire and tornado) are also performed in order to assist employees with refreshers on response procedures.

**Encouraging a good reporting culture** is tops on the list for making a difference for safety. Employee identification of hazards and effective follow through on fixing the hazard will help to eliminate injuries. At UWRF, we have an online reporting system for safety concerns (near misses, etc.) but all employees are also encouraged to talk to their supervisors or call Risk Management.

Together we can reduce injuries!

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**Fixing it before it breaks!**

**Hazardous Waste Training**
Tuesday, March 11th
UW-Stout
9:00 am—3:30 pm
Pre-registration is required.
Contact Risk Management at x. 3344. The van will leave from the Facilities parking lot at 7:45 a.m.

**COMING UP!**
**Safety Tour—Ag Science**
Wednesday, March 5th
8:00—11:00 a.m.

**Safety Committee Meeting**
Wednesday, March 19th
1:00 p.m.

**Poison Prevention Week**
March 16th - 22nd
Listen to Mr. Yuk’s Song!
http://www.chp.edu/CHP/mryuk

**Student Senate Sponsored**
**Safety Walk**
Monday, April 21st
(6:00-8:00 p.m.)

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**Poison Prevention Week—March 16-22nd**

The U.S. Congress established National Poison Prevention Week on September 16, 1961 (P.L. 87-319). More than 2 million poisonings are reported each year to the 57 poison control centers across the country. More than 90 percent of these poisonings occur in the home. The majority of non-fatal poisonings occur in children younger than six years old. And, poisonings are one of the leading causes of death among adults. If you think someone has been poisoned from a medicine or household chemical, call 1-800-222-1222 for your Poison Control Center. This toll-free number works from anyplace in the United States - 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week.

**Several brochures and a magnet with the Poison Center phone number are available from Risk Management. Share with your family members who have small children! A listing of poisonous plants is also available.**