



# Covid-19

## 2020 Workers Memorial Day

In the age of COVID-19, Workers Memorial Day 2020 joins the ever-growing list of things we need to do differently. But we won't let social distancing or stay-at-home orders stop us for honoring our siblings who have died on the job. Here are some ideas for how you can still honor the dead and stay safe this Workers Memorial Day, April 28, 2020:

- Organize an online campaign to call for stronger safety and health protections.
- Do a workplace solidarity action by wearing your local union shirt or other USW gear.
- Hold a virtual candlelight vigil. (Stay tuned for a virtual USW event!)
- Fly the flag at half-staff for the day and lay a wreath at the flag pole or plant entry.
- Host a phone call or webinar with elected officials in your districts.
- Create a photo campaign on social media to remember workers who have been killed on the job and lift up the memory of their lives. (Tag @Steelworkers and use the #USWWorks hashtag so we can share them!)
- Pre-record/film your local union message for your workplace events.
- Share your local union workers memorial messages on the local union websites and social media. (Tag @Steelworkers and use the #USWWorks hashtag so we can share them!)
- Use workplace monitors to play continuous workers memorial material that your local has developed.

More information is available at  
**[WWW.USW.ORG/COVID19](http://WWW.USW.ORG/COVID19)**



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- Have workers memorial messages broadcasted on designated frequency over workplace radios at times so all members can participate. (Work with your employer to do this.)
- Have a moment of silence across the workplace at the start of each shift.
- Work with your employer to have rotating relief times to take part in workers Memorial Day events while maintaining social distancing.
- Keep groups small to maintain CDC recommendations for social distance.
- If you are working during the outbreak, organize an event at your workplace (while maintaining social distancing)
- Share our message that now more than ever, we need to stand together to protect all workers' rights to a safe job and one of our union's top priorities is holding our employers accountable for keeping us safe.
- Request employers donate needed PPE to local hospitals/ first responders or other USW work places in need (see <http://usw.to/PPE> for more info).
- Notify the press and invite them to your virtual Workers Memorial Day events to increase public awareness of the dangers workers face on the job.
- Use and share resources, especially with families of members who have lost their lives, such as:
  - USW Health, Safety and Environment Department:  
<https://www.usw.org/act/activism/health-safety-and-environment>

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- USW COVID-19 Resource Page: [www.usw.org/covid19](http://www.usw.org/covid19)
- United Support and Memorial for Workplace Fatalities: <http://www.usmwf.org>
- AFL-CIO: <https://aflcio.org>
- Come together in person as a Union once this pandemic is over. As a labor movement, we Mourn for the Dead and Fight for the Living on April 28, and every day of the year.

*Work cited:*

*<https://www.usw.org/act/activism/health-safety-and-environment/resources/workers-memorial-day>*

*<https://aflcio.org/about-us/conferences-and-events/workers-memorial-day>*

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