



# NEWS

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April—2019

## **IMPORTANT Dates to Remember**

- **Membership Meeting**—April 18, 2019
- **M&M Sporting Clay Event**—April 26th
- **Safety Awards Program**—May 16th—Information to follow
- **2019 Scholarship Applications Due**—May 31st.



### **BCA/SJ SPORTING CLAY EVENT Friday, April 26th**

Come and join us and experience the fastest-growing shotgun sport in America—M & M Sporting Clays, Pennsville, NJ.

Originally designed to simulate hunting, sporting clays is now often described as “golf with a shotgun.”

Clay targets are presented in a variety of unique woods and open field situations on a course that is challenging and fun.

M & M's courses are the nation's finest, and considered by many to be among the best clay-target facilities in the world.

M & M offers a novice course and an advanced course to ensure fun for shooters of all experience levels and abilities.

Instruction and orientation is included to review safety requirements and basic skills before the event. Information to follow.

**Beginners are welcome!**



### **2019 BCA/SJ Scholarship Program**

2019 Scholarship Program information has been sent to BCA/SJ Members.

This membership service is offered to put greater emphasis on all aspects of education, not exclusively the construction industry.

You may request an Application by contacting the Association Office, or you may access the same on our website [www.bcasj.com](http://www.bcasj.com), click the education tab.

**Please Send Completed Applications to the Association Office by May 31st.**



### **Get Prepared Before That Summer Vacation**

With summer around the corner, vacation is in sight. Your number one priority is relaxation, which is why you should prepare your home before that getaway.

Here are some handy tips for preparing your home.

**Check The Outside First:** Take a walk around your house to look for vulnerabilities. Loose fencing, broken roof shingles and other seemingly non-urgent matters can become trouble while you are away. Check for loose yard items that can be swept away in a storm. While you're at it, latch and lock those swinging porch doors.

If you have a pool, turn off the heater and leave the pump running to avoid algae buildup. Use a cover to prevent a buildup of leaves and debris.

If you are leaving your car behind, keep it in the garage to avoid weather damage and burglaries.

**Preparing The Inside Of Your Home:** Take a walkthrough and ensure all doors and windows are closed and locked.

Add batteries to smoke detectors if necessary and unplug all appliances and electronics that don't need to run. Keeping these items off while you are away saves you money on your electric bill, limits damage in the event of a power surge and reduces fire hazards.

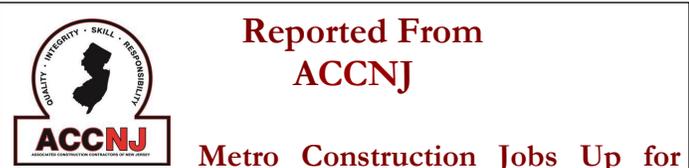
Clean out your refrigerator and throw away (or donate!) any perishable foods. Throw out your garbage to prevent an awful stench when you return.

**Have A Neighbor Check In:** If you are gone for a long time, having a neighbor or close friend check on your house (Cont.)

is a good idea. Your neighbor can collect mail, water plants and keep an eye out for potential hazards while you are away.

Following these home preparation tips before you leave for your relaxing vacation will save you a headache later. And remember that the unexpected can still follow you on your vacation, which is why the right home insurance policy is crucial to stay protected.

Prepared by Glenn Insurance



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**Metro Construction Jobs Up for**

**Year:** AGC of America’s analysis of BLS construction data revealed 275 metro areas, nearly 77% of the 358 areas, added construction jobs between January 2018 and January 2019. In New Jersey, the year period was particularly positive for Camden, which saw an 11% leap in construction employment with the addition of 2,300 jobs. Bergen-Hudson-Passaic added 2,400 jobs, an 8% jump; Vineland-Bridgeton added 100 jobs, a 4% rise; Newark added 1,300 jobs, a 3% gain; and Trenton added 100 jobs, a 2% gain. Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean remained unchanged for the year period. Only Atlantic City-Hammonton experienced a loss, shedding 200 jobs, a 4% drop.

**AGC First Signature Sponsor of National Construction Safety Week:** AGC of America is the first-ever Signature Sponsor of the industry-led Safety Week, May 6-10, and encourages all member firms and chapters to get involved:<http://www.constructionsafetyweek.com>. The theme for the 2019 National Construction Safety Week is “Safe by Choice,” reflecting the commitment of the industry and our members “to do whatever it takes to ensure our safety programs are best-in-class.”

**If AC Becomes Center for Climate Change Research...**Mostly speculative right now, but there is movement on the county and state levels to make Atlantic City “an international center on global warming and change.” Here’s what’s envisioned: agricultural research facilities not too far from a storm system test center in Venice Park, a public art installation on the Boardwalk depicting predicted sea-level rise and, most promising, Stockton’s \$41 million Marine and Environmental Science Center, a 600,000-square-foot building on Bader Field with docks and (Cont.)

ramps accessing the ocean and bays. A feasibility study is currently underway for the Stockton project.

**Construction Employment Up in January:** In the year from January 2018 to January 2019, 44 states added construction jobs, while 33 states added jobs for the month from December 2018 to January 2019. In the region, New York and Connecticut were in the top five for the year-over-year period, adding 16,400 jobs (up 4.2%) and 6,300 (up 11%) respectively. Construction employment hit a record high in New York in January. Both states also made the top five in monthly gains, adding 5,200 jobs (up 1.3%) and 2,300 jobs (up 3.8%) respectively. As for New Jersey and the other states in the region:

- New Jersey started off the year on the plus side, adding 6,900 jobs (up 4.4%) for the year period and 1,900 jobs (up 1.2%) for the month
- Delaware added 1,700 jobs (up 7.8%) for the year period and 300 jobs (up 1.3%) for the month
- Pennsylvania added 8,700 jobs (up 3.4%) for the year period and 1,800 (up 0.7%) for the month

Rhode Island added 900 jobs (up 4.9%) for the year period but landed in the bottom five for the month with the largest percentage decline, down 1.1% on the loss of 200 jobs.

**Construction Materials Prices Rising and Unpredictable:** Construction materials prices rose 3.3% from January 2018 to January 2019, which wasn’t as great an increase as the midyear point in 2018, when prices were up 8% over the same period the year before. And some prices have dropped precipitously recently, including lumber and diesel fuel. Most frustrating for builders, however, is the unpredictability of prices. Lumber, for example, dropped to \$327 per thousand board feet in January, down from May 2018’s high of \$582, a result of demand that started strong and fell sharply, plus Canadian lumber tariffs, plus oversupply from a build-up during the price hikes. In the same vein, the price of diesel fuel dropped 13% in January but, reflecting the volatility, had risen 18% from January to November 2018, and could rise again if the US imposes new sanctions on Venezuela. Steel prices are spiking because of the 25% tariff – steel mill product prices leaped 19% from January 2018 to January 2019.

