

Birdhouse Maker Cited For 22 OSHA Violations

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COLUMBUS, Wis. (AP) — A small Wisconsin manufacturer of metal birdhouses has been cited for 22 alleged safety violations.

A federal workplace agency says Gardner Equipment Co. failed to take adequate steps to ensure its employees' safety.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration says it found 22 violations at the company's Columbus and Juneau facilities. The agency has proposed nearly \$126,000 in fines.

A message left with the company Thursday was not immediately returned.

OSHA says Gardner officials failed to make sure their workers wore protective clothing when dealing with certain skin irritants. The agency says some workers who worked with the materials ended up with rashes on their arms and hands.

Gardner has 15 business days to comply with the fines, contest the citations or request a conference with OSHA.

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