



Welcome to the Cotton Connection

Delivering The Latest Cotton Companies Updates & Industry Related News

A promotional banner for 'Cotton CrawFest 2018'. The background is blue with a pattern of cotton bolls. On the left is a circular logo featuring a red crawfish on a white background with a grid pattern. The logo text includes 'COTTON CRAWFEST 2018' and 'THURS. APR 5th | 3-10PM'. To the right of the logo, the text reads: '★ COTTON ★ CRAWFEST 2018', 'OVER 5000 LBS OF CRAWFISH', 'COTTON RANCH EVENTS | KATY, TEXAS', and 'RAFFLE | LIVE AUCTION | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT'. At the bottom, a white banner with red text says 'THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!'.

2018 Annual Cotton CrawFest is 22 days away!

The 2018 Annual Invitational Cotton CrawFest is only 22 days away, and that means the sponsorship deadline is almost here! Each year, we gather together to raise money for the [Cotton Foundation](#) and specifically, [Taylor's Place](#). Thank you to our Diamond Level Sponsors who have donated over \$10,000.

- American Freightways LP
- Abatix Corp.
- Sunbelt
- Global Disaster Restoration & Construction

- HDME Construction Group LLC
- Dietel Company

A warm thank you to all other sponsors as well as to those who have donated auction and raffle items to make this year's event the biggest and most successful to date. Please continue to send your sponsorship commitments to julissa.duran@cottonteam.com.

Find the sponsorship form and more information on: cottonfoundation.com

**Note: The Cotton CrawFest is by invitation only for our clients and sponsors. Contact your local Cotton representative for additional details.*

cottonfoundation.com



Cotton's Spring Weather Safety Tips

Learn more about four Spring weather hazards to be prepared for

Spring arrives with generally warmer temperatures and lush greenery, however, the season can also bring severe weather. As temperatures can swing back and forth, with sunny days being followed by stormy nights, [Cotton](http://Cotton.com) wants you to be aware of the dangers that may occur in this coming season. Take these steps to stay safe if severe conditions are predicted for your area that may affect your business.

THUNDERSTORMS Thunderstorms can cause the most severe weather bringing tornadoes, flooding, hail, and especially lightning. According to American Red Cross, lightning kills more people each year than tornadoes or hurricanes. Take thunderstorm

watches and warnings seriously, as people may be harmed by either ignoring them or missing the signals.

- Identify trees that have weak branches that may be struck by lightning and cause damage to people, vehicles, or buildings.
- Do not operate heavy metal equipment during thunderstorms and stay clear of all utility wires and poles.
- Shutter windows and secure doors, also close windows, blinds and curtains.
- Unplug electrical equipment before the storm arrives or make sure your surge protectors are in order.
- Remain indoors until the storm passes.
- Have backup power sources in place in case there is a power outage.

TORNADOES Spring Tornadoes can lash out quickly and unexpectedly. Their sizable violence can completely uproot trees, destroy well-made structures, and even hurl objects into the air turning them into dangerous projectiles. Heed the emergency broadcast warnings to ensure the safety of your employees and yourself.

- Implement a notification system and make sure employees are familiar with the signal to head to safe areas.
- Take shelter in a secure area with no windows on the lowest floor of the building or in a basement.
- Monitor emergency broadcast stations for instructions.
- Remain in shelter until given the all-clear.
- If a hissing noise or odor of natural gas or propane is detected, leave property immediately get to a safe distance, and call the fire department using a cellular phone.

HAIL Hail storms are one of spring's most costly weather hazards. They can leave adverse damages to businesses, homes, vehicles, and vegetation. Monitor hail storm warnings and take measures to protect yourself.

- Look for signs of the approaching storm, such as darkening skies and increasing wind speeds.
- Put vehicles in garages and outdoor objects in storage to reduce damages.
- If you are outdoors, seek shelter immediately in a sturdy building. Do not go outside until the hailstorm passes as large hail can cause substantial injuries.
- Once you are inside keep away from windows, glass doors, and skylights.
- If you're on the road during a hailstorm, stay in the vehicle as it can furnish reasonable protection if you cannot get to a covered area.

FLOODING Flooding is a coast-to-coast epidemic that threatens the U.S. year-round but is at a seasonal high in the Spring. Whether it's a few inches or several feet, flood

water can have detrimental effects on your business and home. Take these steps to reduce the harm caused by flooding.

- Move vehicles away from flood zones or to upper levels of parking garages.
- Run elevators to an upper floor and cycle doors shut.
- If there is advance notice of potential flooding, relocate valuable or sensitive material off-site or to a higher elevation.
- Report contamination and hazardous spills to authorities.
- Remove all items that have been wet for more than 24 hours to prevent mold growth.

Often times severe weather arrives with little notice, leaving hardly any time for businesses to prepare. Plan ahead by consulting with [Cotton](#) regarding business continuance and recovery of property.

Contact us TODAY to get started: (713) 849-9300 | cottongds.com.



How Breakfast Catering Can Make Your Employees More Productive

Want to boost your offices productivity? Find out how to below:

For business managers and owners, increasing employee productivity is a major objective. While there are many ways to boost productivity, one of the easiest and most effective is ensuring that employees start the day with a healthy, meal. Although it is widely recognized that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, a staggering 31 million Americans skip breakfast on a regular basis. Breakfast catering could help your employees be more productive for a number of key reasons.

Get Employees to Work Earlier

No matter what the business or the time of year, there can be a struggle to get all employees in the door and working right away. Some employees might show up late with a coffee in hand, and others might arrive on time but nibble their way through the morning with snacks. A significant portion of employees say that they sometimes arrive late to work because they stop to get breakfast on their way in. If you want your team to be on time and productive, consider providing them with a hot breakfast by way of breakfast catering. It incentivizes an early start each and every day.

Boost Office Morale in the Mornings

A proven way to boost productivity is to increase morale. When employees are happier, they also feel more motivated to work. Breakfast catering is one way to boost office morale each morning. When employees don't have to worry about buying or making a hot breakfast, they can relax and feel a little less stressed. This often translates to increased productivity during the workday.

Keep Employees Fed and Energized Until Lunch

Sometimes, employees arrive at work rushed and on an empty stomach. As a result they may suffer from low blood sugar, and work will suffer until lunchtime. The alternative might be grabbing an unhealthy snack from the vending machine and feeling sluggish for several hours afterwards. To stabilize blood sugar and boost energy in the mornings, a glass of orange juice and a meal prepared by a qualified breakfast caterers is a smart choice.

Encourage Team Bonding Over Breakfast

Another benefit of providing breakfast catering is that it can encourage employees to bond with one another. All too often, employees don't know the people that work in their office or at their jobsite. That's a shame, because closer ties can encourage communication and create stronger teams in the workplace. A hot breakfast can be a communal opportunity to mingle and meet with other employees, and create the comradery that will lead to more productivity.

If you're considering implementing a breakfast catering program for your employees, contact Cotton Culinary to discuss your budget and options. [Cotton Culinary](#) can provide your team with the delicious, nutritious fuel they need to start the day. This additional perk can go a long way in showing your employees that they are valued and respected each day.

To learn more visit: cottonculinary.com.



Four OneLodge Amenities To Check Out Upon Arrival

Explore the many amenities that come with your OneLodge stay

[Cotton Logistics](#) engineered OneLodge to be a home away from home for our guests. Once you've checked into one of our [OneLodge](#) man camps, it's time to explore four great amenities that are included in your stay:

1. Room Comfort. Whether it's single, double, quadruple, or even a VIP suite configuration, rest assured that OneLodge is dedicated to delivering a comfortable and spacious oil-field housing experience. Each guest room is equipped with a flat screen television and some have a workstation and even a mini refrigerator for convenience. As bathrooms are just as important to a traveler as the bedroom, our lodges boast hospitable Jack N' Jill or private style bathrooms to give you maximum relaxation and privacy.

2. Food & Drink. At full occupancy, Cotton Culinary serves over 2500 meals per day across our OneLodge locations while also providing 24-hour snack and beverage services to in-house guests. Our Executive Chefs prepare three meals per day, seven days a of the week. It's important to get your day started off right, so be sure to get a taste of the hot breakfast buffet followed by a not-so-typical boxed lunch and a rotation of warm dinner buffet and extensive salad bar.

3. Internet cafe. Affordable yet difficult to attain luxury while on projects is well-deserved downtime. Find this at any of our OneLodge Internet cafes! Use our state-of-the-art WiFi and computers to catch up on your emails and social media feeds. Unwind and continue binge-watching the series you started at home while at the lodge with our fast internet, whether it may be from your personal device or our cafe's computers.

4. Recreation Areas. Unwind from the long work day and be entertained in the large indoor recreation center. Our facilities feature: a theater room with large flat screen television and multiple lounge areas with room to relax and socialize with others.

Continue your health goals in our workout facility complete with weights and cardio equipment. And finally, if you prefer the outdoors, visit our covered outdoor pavilion with BBQ pits and picnic tables to get some fresh air. Several of our OneLodge properties also feature indoor ping-pong, foosball, and card tables as well as an outdoor basketball court.

Our [OneLodge](#) facilities are more than just a place to rest your head. It is truly a home for our guests, and we want nothing more than to meet everyone's diverse needs. They say home is where the heart is, and ours is committed to making sure your stay at OneLodge is as comfortable and enjoyable as possible.

Discover how [OneLodge](#) can be your home away from home. Call us **TODAY**: 877.427.2947.

COTTON'S FINEST



James Scaife

**President of
Global Disaster Solutions**

At Cotton we're always striving to be more effective, efficient, and to better services all our clients in their times of need and put them back in business FAST!

Cotton's Finest

Employee Spotlight on James Scaife, President of Global Disaster Solutions

1. What is your role on the Cotton Team? What are 3 words you'd use to describe it?

I'm proud to be the President of Cotton Commercial USA, Inc. Three words to describe my role would be – fast-paced, challenging, and most definitely rewarding.

2. Where is your favorite place in the world?

My favorite places in the world are Augusta, GA, "The Masters," or Snow Skiing!

3. What does "Cottonuity" mean to you?

Cottonuity to me means, All in. Every division and service line exhausts the same effort with one common goal - satisfied clients.

4. How does Cotton go above and beyond for our clients?

At Cotton we're always striving to be more effective, efficient, and to better service all our clients in their times of need and put them back in business FAST!

5. Tell us something about yourself that might surprise us!

I've been a huge Miami Dolphins fan since I was 6 years old!