



# MAFES Dawg Tracks

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*Safety is Everyone's Responsibility*



Safety is everyone's responsibility. We should treat safety as an integral part of our job the same as we do for planting, harvesting crops and/or handling livestock. Each employee should be on the lookout for hazards, refrain from taking shortcuts, grandstanding and engaging in horseplay.

### **WHY DO ACCIDENTS HAPPEN?**

- The majority of accidents can be avoided.
- Safety conscious – absolutely the best way to avoid safety accidents.
- Reasons that accidents occur:
  - ~carelessness
  - ~lack of training
  - ~not paying attention to what it is you're doing
  - ~possessing a "know it all" attitude
  - ~taking shortcuts
  - ~being overtired
  - ~being in too much of a hurry
  - ~allowing stress and other emotions to interfere with your job
- We can prevent most accidents if we treat safety as an important responsibility.

### **KEY SAFETY TIPS-**

- ✓ **Have the right safety attitude-** This means knowing all the safety rules, doing all you can to prevent accidents and treating safety as an important of your job.
- ✓ **Practice safe work habits-** Set a good example for other co-workers. Wear the PPE that is required and don't remove guards or shields and follow all safety instructions.
- ✓ **Come to work refreshed and ready to do your job-** Insufficient sleep can result in accidents. Being upset when you get to work over an incident that happened at home can distract you and cause an injury.
- ✓ **Think before you act-** Plan your work before you start. Think about a plan for your project, what could go wrong, how to avoid a mistake and how you will protect yourself against any unexpected hazards that might occur.
- ✓ **Keep your mind on your work-** Stay focused on your day job and don't worry about your night activity or where you'll fish on the weekend,

### **POOR SAFETY ATTITUDES-**

Bad attitudes can get you in trouble as easily as other causes. For example:

- **"This job is simple"** can relay to an accident as the person is probably taking a laid back approach to the task.
- **"I don't have time to think about safety."** "I need to get this job done right now." - Hurrying results in carelessness and carelessness leads to an accident.
- **"I'll do things my way."** This attitude automatically "throws up a flag" that puts you and fellow workers in potential jeopardy with his or her egotistical and arrogant attitude.
- **"I can figure this out myself."** This is great thinking, but it never hurts to ask for assistance when analyzing a problem. As the old adage goes, "Two heads are better than one."
- **"Accidents will happen no matter what I do."** Most will disagree with this assessment. Preparedness, remaining focused and being safety conscious can greatly reduce the potential for any type of accident.

### **MORE SAFETY TIPS FOR ACCIDENT PREVENTION-**

- Keep your work area clean and free of clutter and scrap.
- Carefully inspect tools before you use them.
- Pay attention to warning signs and near misses. This extends your "lucky streak" of avoiding accidents.
- Don't by-pass safety devices, such as guards or shields.
- If you are new on a job, get training and review the training to be 100% familiar with the guidelines.
- Get sufficient rest and eat right to avoid these factors resulting in stress on the job.
- Wear the right clothing- avoid loose fitting clothing and jewelry that might get caught in a moving part.
- If you are working alone, be sure that someone is aware of where you are and that you are alone.
- Be on the lookout for hazards, fix them or report them to management.
- Stay out of the way of equipment being operated by others.

*SAFETY SHOULDN'T BE  
JUST A SLOGAN -  
IT SHOULD BE OUR WAY OF LIFE!!*