SAFETY PROGRAM SUCCESS

SAFETY PROGRAM SUCCESS depends on…

- Clearly stated company policies and work rules (written program is best).
- *Regularly* scheduled and informative safety training and meetings.
- Thorough **self-auditing**.
- **Strictly enforced** *discipline* policies.
- **Involvement needs to start from the top** with management to gain worker buy-in.

Each Employee should have:

- Access to the company Health and Safety Program.
- A copy of company work rules.
- Access to the OSHA Logging Standard.
- A specific job description of the tasks expected to be performed.
- Standard operating procedures (SOPs), detailing proper techniques for safely performing the tasks.
- Detailed instructions on proper use and maintenance of PPE.
- Training for hazard identification and corresponding safety standards and work rules.
- On the job training that includes mastery demonstration of safety skills and technical competence.

Logging Safety Training should be done**:**

- Prior to start of work for a new employee.
- Before an employee is assigned a new task, tool or equipment.
- When a change in work procedure occurs.
- Unsafe work practices or performance occurs.
- After a Near-miss or accident.

Topics for Tailgates:

Repetition is key, have a rotation of safety topics for your daily, weekly and monthly meetings. It is important to discuss **common risks.** These topics should be repeated throughout the year.

- Hazard identification, prevention and control.
- Personal protective equipment.
- Safe procedures for handling dead trees/widowmakers/snags/lodged trees.
- Safe machine operation.
- Safe use and maintenance of tools, machines and vehicles.
- Emergency communication and evacuation.
- Chemical handling.
- Signaling and signal equipment.
- First aid and CPR
- OSHA standards including logging, bloodborne pathogens, personal protective equipment, hearing conservation, lock-out/tag-out, and hazard communication.

Investigating Accidents and Near Misses

- Remember…all accidents and near misses must be reported immediately to the owner or supervisor. These near-miss incidents can be used to learn how and what your crew can do to stay safe.
- The owner/supervisor/worker should conduct an on-site investigation of each accident and near miss to determine the root cause(s).
- A written accident investigation form should be prepared and used, with pictures where possible.
- Investigation results should be posted where employees may observe and comment.
- Reports should be discussed at the next safety meeting.

Safety Meetings

- Schedule daily, as a best practice, at least weekly tailgates.
- Require all employees to attend, have employees sign in.
- Conduct individually, in crews, or in larger groups.
- Review and discuss the most recent site safety inspection and accidents and near misses.
- Seek worker input, ideas, concerns, and suggestions.

Self-Audit / Site Safety Inspections

- Conduct inspections of logging operations frequently and regularly:
  - Perform at least weekly (daily is better).
  - Audit by owner/supervisor with employee involvement.
  - Develop written inspection check list to identify hazards/problems. Include:
    - Work site review
    - PPE review
    - Review of skill/technique of each worker (observation and feedback)
    - Equipment (machine and vehicle) review
    - Discuss results with workers at next safety meeting
- Maintain records of each on-site inspection.

Documentation of Training Records

- Written training certification must be maintained for each employee.
- Records must indicate course, date, signature of employer/trainer, and the names of employees trained.
- If accepting an employee's training from a previous employer or provider (for example, First Aid or CPR training), the employer must verify the content, the documentation with signature of the trainer or the employer, and date(s) of prior training. Per OSHA, the certification record must indicate the date that the new employer determined the prior training was adequate.