

# 7 SAFETY TIPS

THAT WILL SAVE SOMEONE'S LIFE



# WELCOME

WILL FLOWER

WINTERS BROS. WASTE SYSTEMS

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# THANK YOU!

THIS PRESENTATION IS  
ALL ABOUT YOU  
& THE PEOPLE  
YOU SERVE.



THE WASTE INDUSTRY IS THE 5<sup>TH</sup>  
MOST DANGEROUS OCCUPATION  
IN THE UNITED STATES.



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UNACCEPTABLE.



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# WHERE IS SAFETY A CONCERN...

- ROUTE
- SHOP
- RECYCLING CENTER
- TRANSFER STATION
- LANDFILL
- OFFICE
- SALES

EVERYWHERE!

# LET'S STATE THE OBVIOUS...

- WORKING IN THE WASTE AND RECYCLING INDUSTRY IS HARD.
- IT IS PHYSICALLY DEMANDING WORK.
- THE WORKING CONDITIONS CHANGE CONSTANTLY AND WORK IS CONDUCTED IN ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS—SUN, RAIN, SNOW, COLD AND HEAT.
- EMPLOYEES WALK ON A VARIETY OF SURFACES THAT CAN BE SLIPPERY, MUDDY AND UNEVEN.
- WORKERS CLIMB IN AND OUT OF TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT ALL DAY LONG.
- TO BE SAFE, WORKERS MUST EXERCISE CAUTION EVERY SECOND OF EACH AND EVERY DAY.

# AGENDA & FORMAT

- SEVEN SAFETY TIPS AT SEVEN SAFETY STATIONS
  - THE INFORMATION AT EACH STATION CAN IMMEDIATELY BE PUT TO WORK AT YOUR SOLID WASTE OR RECYCLING OPERATION.
  - COVERS HAULING OPERATIONS, TRANSFER STATIONS AND RECYCLING CENTERS.
- BONUS TIP: EFFECTIVE WAYS TO IMPROVE THE DELIVERY AND RECEIPT OF SAFETY MESSAGES AMONG DRIVERS, EQUIPMENT OPERATORS AND LABORERS.

AUDIENCE  
PARTICIPATION  
WELCOME



# AN ADVANCED APOLOGY...

- WE'RE GOING TO USE A FEW SLIDES FULL OF BULLET POINTS.
- HANDOUT OF ALL MATERIAL.
- TALKING POINTS WILL BE A GUIDE FOR OUR DISCUSSION.

# SAFETY TIP # 1 - STRETCH TO AVOID STRAINS AND SPRAINS

- #1 INJURY TO OUR WORKFORCE.
- PREVENTION IS THE BEST MEDICINE.
- IT IS POSSIBLE TO ELIMINATE SPRAINS AND STRAINS.
- TO DO SO, A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH IS NECESSARY, WHICH SHOULD INCLUDE EDUCATION, PRE-WORK STRETCHING, RISK AWARENESS AND ONGOING COACHING.
- BEFORE DOING ANY PHYSICALLY DEMANDING ACTIVITY, LIKE CARRYING GARBAGE CANS, PUSHING A CONTAINER OR STEPPING INTO OR OUT OF TRUCK, IT'S IMPORTANT TO STRETCH YOUR MAJOR MUSCLE GROUPS.
  - STRETCHING HELPS WARM UP AND LOOSEN MUSCLES, LIGAMENTS AND JOINTS IN THE BODY.
- NOT JUST THE ROUTE DRIVERS AND HELPERS...THE RISK OF STRAINS AND SPRAINS AT A RECYCLING CENTER IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE RISK ON A ROUTE TRUCK.
  - THAT'S WHY TRAINING AND RISK REDUCTION STRATEGIES SHOULD BE JOB-SPECIFIC.

## SAFETY TIP #2: AVOID THE ROLL OVER

- GARBAGE TRUCKS ARE BIG, HEAVY, BULKY, MASSIVE TRUCKS WITH HIGH CENTERS OF GRAVITY.
- WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION AND THE CENTER OF GRAVITY OF A GARBAGE TRUCK CHANGES DURING THE WORKDAY DEPENDING ON THE LOAD.
- OTHER VARIABLES:
  - ROAD CONDITIONS
  - WEATHER
  - MECHANICAL

# AVOID THE ROLL OVER

- PAY ATTENTION TO SURFACE CONDITIONS. SOFT SURFACES AND UN-LEVEL SURFACES MAY POTENTIALLY CAUSE A ROLLOVER.
- BE ALERT FOR ROAD SHOULDER CONDITIONS. SOFT SHOULDERS OR NO SHOULDERS MAY CAUSE A TRUCK TO TIP AND POSSIBLY ROLL OR FLIP.
- CHECK TIRES AND MAINTAIN CORRECT TIRE PRESSURE.
- BE AWARE OF THE TRUCK'S CENTER OF GRAVITY AND REALIZE THAT IT CHANGES DEPENDING ON THE LOAD ON THE TRUCK.
- SLOW DOWN BEFORE ENTERING CURVES.
- MAKE SURE YOUR LOAD IS STABLE AND SECURE, ESPECIALLY WITH ROLL-OFF BOXES THAT MAY HAVE BEEN LOADED UNEVENLY.
- BRAKE SMOOTHLY IN A STRAIGHT LINE WHEN APPROACHING THE CORNER.
- STEER SMOOTHLY OUT OF THE TURN.

# SAFETY TIP #3: INSPECT FACILITIES

FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS, SAFETY RULES, TRANSPORTATION LAWS OR ANY COMBINATION OF COMPLIANCE AND SAFETY ISSUES.

SOME OF THE ITEMS THAT CAN BE INCLUDED ON A FACILITY INSPECTION CHECKLIST INCLUDE:

- *BUILDING AND GROUNDS*
- *FIRE HAZARDS*
- *PERMIT CONDITIONS*
- *UNLOADING AREAS*
- *GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING*
- *LIQUID AND CHEMICAL STORAGE*
- *SPILLS*
- *PROPER SIGNAGE*
- *LIGHTING*
- *ELECTRICITY*
- *LADDERS*
- *RECYCLING EQUIPMENT*
- *LOCK OUT, TAG OUT*
- *PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT*

# SAFETY TIP #4: THE 93 DAYS OF SUMMER

THERE IS A HIGHER NUMBER OF OTHER THREATS THAT REQUIRE WASTE AND RECYCLING WORKERS TO BE EXTRA VIGILANT DURING THE SUMMER:

- BUSY ROADWAYS
- KIDS AT PLAY
- HOT, HOT, HOT
  - WORKING OUTSIDE DURING THE SUMMER MEANS THAT WORKERS ARE AT RISK FOR A HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS.
  - WORKERS NEED TO DRINK WATER OR SPORTS DRINKS THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO REPLACE FLUIDS IN THE BODY.
  - WORKERS SHOULD ALSO WEAR APPROPRIATE CLOTHING AND USE SUN SCREEN.
  - MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH THE SIGNS OF HEAT RELATED ILLNESS INCLUDING HEAT STRESS, HEAT EXHAUSTION AND HEAT STROKE.
- FIREWORK SAFETY
- HOT COALS
- BEES AND WASPS
- TICKS

## SAFETY TIP #5: PPE – THE NECESSITIES OF SAFETY

- PPE MAY INCLUDE ITEMS SUCH AS GLOVES, SAFETY GLASSES, WORK BOOTS AND HIGH VISIBILITY VESTS, SHIRTS OR JACKETS. FOR OTHER JOBS, PPE MAY INCLUDE EARPLUGS, DUST MASKS, HARD HATS, AND SAFETY SLEEVES.
- TO DETERMINE THE PROPER PPE FOR A GIVEN JOB, CONDUCT A "HAZARD ASSESSMENT" OF THE TASKS INCLUDING THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT.
- POLICIES AND WORK RULES SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO REQUIRE THE PROPER USE OF PPE WHILE PERFORMING SPECIFIC TASKS.
- ALL PPE SHOULD FIT PROPERLY AND BE COMFORTABLE TO WEAR.
- PPE ALSO NEEDS REGULAR INSPECTION.
- EMPLOYERS ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO TRAIN WORKERS IN THE PROPER USE AND CARE OF PPE.
- PPE DOES NOT MAKE ANYONE SUPERMAN.

# SAFETY TIP #6 – BE ALERT AROUND BIG EQUIPMENT

MAKE CERTAIN YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE SAFE BY FOLLOW THESE BEST PRACTICES:

- REQUIRE THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT.
- EQUIPMENT OPERATORS MUST BE TRAINED TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO WORKERS WHO MAY BE ON FOOT AND WORKING NEAR MACHINES.
- PROVIDE TRAINING TO WORKERS WHO ARE WORKING AROUND ROLLING STOCK (LARGE AND SMALL).
- MANAGERS SHOULD REGULARLY OBSERVE EQUIPMENT OPERATORS AND TALK WITH/COACH OPERATORS ABOUT THEIR WORK BEHAVIOR.
- LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE NEAR EQUIPMENT. KEEP DRIVERS AND HELPERS OFF THE TIP FLOOR AND AWAY FROM THE ACTIVE FACE OF THE LANDFILL.
- INSTALL CLEARLY MARKED PATHWAYS FOR WORKERS TO WALK IN TRANSFER STATIONS AND MRFs.
- MAKE SURE THE BACKUP ALARMS AND LIGHTS ON EQUIPMENT ARE WORKING PROPERLY.
- OPERATORS SHOULD MAKE SURE ALL THE WINDOWS ON THEIR EQUIPMENT ARE CLEAN AND CLEAR. CRACKED WINDOWS AND MIRRORS SHOULD BE REPLACED.

## SAFETY TIP #7

TERMINATE EMPLOYEES WHO REFUSE TO OPERATE SAFELY.

YOU'LL BE DOING THEM A FAVOR AND MAYBE EVEN SAVING THEIR LIFE!

# TALKING ABOUT SAFETY

- BE A GOOD LISTENER. FIRST AND FOREMOST, EVERY GOOD COMMUNICATOR IS A GOOD LISTENER.
- BE CONCISE.
- BE GENUINE.
- USE STORIES AND EXAMPLES.
- BE FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL.
- SPEAK WITH PASSION -- TELL PEOPLE WHY YOU WANT THEM TO BE SAFE.

- BE AWARE OF LANGUAGE BARRIERS.
- BE POSITIVE AND RECOGNIZE SAFE BEHAVIOR.
- HAVE REGULAR CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SAFETY.

# LAST WORDS...WALK THE TALK

- TALKING ABOUT SAFETY IS NOT ENOUGH.
- MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS AND EXECUTIVES MUST CONTINUALLY ACT SAFE AND EXHIBIT GOOD AND SAFE BEHAVIOR.
- SHOW EVERYONE ON THE TEAM THAT YOU ARE SERIOUS ABOUT SAFETY.
- SET A GOOD EXAMPLE WHICH WILL SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT THE VALUE YOU PLACE ON SAFETY.
- “WALK THE TALK” BECAUSE “WELL DONE” BEATS “WELL SAID” EVERY TIME.

THANK YOU.

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