



# WORK TRUCK SAFETY

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**Vehicle crashes are the top cause of work-related fatality! Wear your seat belt and don't drive distracted!** Utility workers drive thousands of miles per month, oftentimes over long hours. Employees that drive must continuously think about the safety of themselves, passengers, pedestrians and other motorists. Because of changes in traffic and road conditions, safe driving isn't always easy. Safe driving takes discipline. Review these safety tips with work truck drivers.

## SAFETY TIPS FOR WORK TRUCK USERS

- Follow your company safety rules about work truck driving and safety. Avoid crashes by doing the basics.
- Wear your seat belt. Seat belts help minimize injuries and can prevent ejection during a rollover crash.
- Make sure all riders in the truck are seated and belted.
- Don't drive distracted. Pay attention to the road.
- Unsafe driving distractions include phone use, texting, using a GPS, lighting a cigarette, reading paperwork, or focusing on objects outside the vehicle like signs.
- Increase following distance. Don't tailgate.
- Do a walk-around safety check of the truck every day.
- Check the truck tires. Make sure steer tires are safe.
- Tires should be properly inflated & have safe tread depth.
- Keep windows clean, mirrors adjusted.
- Keep warning equipment and lighting working.
- When working alongside moving traffic, use road cones and wear high-visibility apparel.
- Make sure trailer lights function.
- When pulling trailers, keep speeds slow. Avoid sharp turns and increase following distance.
- Heavy work trucks are slower to stop due to heavy weight.
- Reduce speed in heavy traffic, or icy / rainy conditions.
- Stow/secure tools, ladders and supplies safely.
- Avoid falls. Don't jump from truck beds.
- Truck beds can be slick and can cause a slip and fall.
- Before backing, Get Out And Look.
- To warn others, honk the horn before backing.
- Make sure an ABC fire extinguisher and first aid kit are available. Know emergency phone numbers.

## DO THE BASICS

- ✓ **Increase following distance – don't tailgate!**
- ✓ **Scan for other vehicles or objects – pay attention!**
- ✓ **Wear your seat belt – even on excavators!**
- ✓ **Minimize distractions. Don't use cell phones or text.**
- ✓ **Slow down. Always follow the speed limit.**



**MAKE SURE TRAILERS ARE KEPT ORDERLY. INCREASE FOLLOWING DISTANCE WHEN PULLING TRAILERS.**



**PREVENT INJURIES BY KEEPING WORK TRUCK BEDS ORGANIZED AND TIDY.**



**DO NOT DRIVE DISTRACTED AND ALWAYS WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT!**