

Safety



Evaluating your safety program

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This month I would like to talk about evaluating your safety program. In today's working environment, we can't waste any resource on any activity that is not giving you a good bang for your buck. Safety is not exempt from this. The following are some ideas on how you know that your safety program is working.

1st, You need to define what your safety exposures are. Look back on your company's injury log, and look for examples of other company's injuries, and ask yourself, could this happen here, and what are we doing to make it less likely to happen here?

2nd, Look at your safety program and ask yourself, is it meeting the companies needs for safety training? Some possible ideas are:

A. Is PPE available, clean, appropriate for the job, and replaced as needed?

B. Do your employees use safety practices and are they able to verbalize what the safety procedures are?

C. Are you engaging your employees in short discussions on safety to see how they look at safety, and does this line up with your companys philosophy?

D. Check to see if the way you are delivering your safety training is working for all employees. Then, consider changing up the way you are presenting your messages. For example, use texting, written bulletins, tailgate meetings, online training, videos from the PLC,

and do the training in a large group, small group, or one on one.

E. Do you have a plan to keep your employee's minds engaged in thinking safety? Remember that it is ok to schedule training and surprise your employees with popup training.

F. Keep track of near miss accidents and document what can be learned from them.

G. Share your results with your employees and get input from them on how to improve safety.

3rd Keep the paddle in the water and working your safety program looking for ways to improve and work safer. Read logging journals, online safety alerts, manufacturer bulletins. Talk to other logging contractors to see what they are doing to improve their safety and what has worked for them.

Remember to go to the PLC website (maineloggers.com) and check out our updated safety resources. We have videos, audio recordings, topic outlines, and much more.

New for summer 2021, six out of the seven annually required trainings (the seventh is CPR & 1st Aid done bi-annually, and you need a trained provider to instruct your crews) laid out in a 15-minute tailgate talk type of meetings with the sign-in sheet for your records. See below for details!

If you missed them PLC Safety Trainings now online for Members Only!

Members, the PLC's 2021 Logger and Fleet Spring Safety Trainings and many other videos and resources are now available in the Members-only section of the PLC website for those who missed them! To check them out, go to maineloggers.com/contractormembersonly/

and login to the web site.

If you do not have a login yet, follow the instructions on the website to create one.

This is a contractor members-only benefit. If you need help accessing the trainings contact the PLC office!