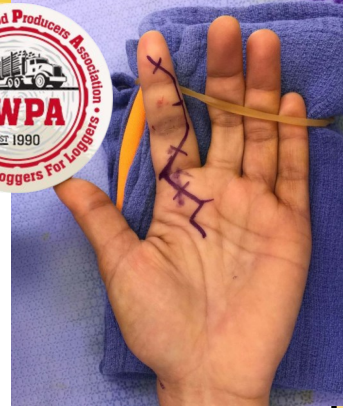




Avoid Laceration Injuries

As we have said many times before, most job site injuries can be prevented if you follow safety protocols and stay alert.

Common mistakes that lead to laceration injuries on the jobsite include:

Using the Wrong Tools for the Task, Dull Blades, Poor Lighting, Clutter and Debris near the site, Missing or Broken Safeguards, and Failure to wear PPE. All can lead to injuries.

Proper and safe use of tools - Always use the appropriate tool for the work at hand. All team members should be educated on the proper use of cutting tools. Tools and machinery should be properly maintained, and all safeguards should be repaired or replaced if damaged. Ensure that installed engineering controls are used and that sharp components, as well as moving parts, are well guarded.

Stop using dull tools - Never use dull blades or tools. Dull blades require more force to cut materials. Increasing force while cutting will negatively impact your control and stability and raise the likelihood of slips and skips.

Stabilize materials being cut - Always stabilize materials being cut, bent, drilled, etc. It is tempting to try and hold something in one hand while cutting it with a tool in the other, but this is a safety shortcut that can lead to serious injury. Minimize the number of moving pieces every time you cut any material and stabilize the material before cutting. Use partners, clamps, push sticks, sawhorses, tables, vices, and large work surfaces to keep your hands as far away from the cutting tools as possible.

Use proper PPE - PPE use is REQUIRED! Make sure it is in good condition. PPE is your last line of defense for injury prevention. It is crucial that PPE be provided and used.

Store sharp objects properly - Store sharp objects and tools safely when not in use. Secure cutting devices and tools in containers to prevent accidental contact and injury. If the machines have covers to protect them from the elements, use them to protect people from their moving parts and cutting edges as well.

Use proper lighting - Recognize when there is not enough light to safely work. It is tempting to push through work at dusk to get it done before the next workday. But it's not worth the risk.

Keep safety top of mind and be aware of your work environment.

Take accountability and understand the steps you need to take to be safe.

Take corrective action when necessary.



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Toolbox Talks are provided as a courtesy to SWPA members. Please remember they are to assist you in developing a safety plan. Keep in mind OSHA, Department of Labor and Insurance requirements may change over time and it is your responsibility to make sure your safety plan is up to date. Reference: OSHA, NIOSH, FRA, Safety Talk Ideas.com


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SAFETY MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

TOPIC: _____ DATE: _____

LOCATION: _____ TRAINER: _____

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