



Training notes from the woods & the classroom

August 2011

Safety in the Wood Yard

Recommendations for both Truckers and Mills

- Mills and logging companies should communicate any trainee or passenger regulations
- Establish, clearly communicate and follow designated CB radio channel in the yard
- Hard Hats, Safety glasses and high visibility vests should be worn at all times in the yard
- Loaders and Truckers should wear safety toe boots
- Encourage the use of remote boom rotators on center mounts to reduce exposure
- Use respectful and appropriate language at all times
- Use restroom facilities
- Do not unload during lightning storms
- Stay away from power lines. If contact is made with a power line, stay in truck or loader and do not allow others to approach until help arrives
- Boom should be lowered before leaving the wood yard

Recommendations for Truckers

- Trucks should come to a complete stop before proceeding onto the scale
- Turn off headlights in front of the scale; turn on headlights when leaving the scale, if needed
- Trucks must remain in neutral or parked until the scaler is back in the building
- Never block entrance or exits in unloading area
- Obey the posted speed limit in the yard
- Never stop on railroad tracks
- Only remove straps, binders, and chains in designated areas
- Stay in cab during unloading - or be 25'-50' from truck and in clear sight of loader operator
- Truckers should not move into the working area to reposition the loader until receiving visual authorization
- Stay away from power lines. If contact is made with a power line, stay in the truck or loader until professional help arrives, unless the vehicle is on fire
- Clean/Sweep off your truck and trailer. Use designated areas
- No littering
- No smoking in the wood yard or scale shack
- Report any spills or damage to the scaler

Recommendations for Mills

- Mills should erect proper signage with mill policies and procedures
- Mills should communicate any center mounted loader boom position preferences
- Loader operator should never swing wood over or above cab of the truck
- Loader operator should stop operating if trucker is within 25' of the truck
- Loader operator should stop unloading while trucker repositions the loader
- No unloading when trucker is on load or bed
- Loader operators should ground their bucket when parked
- Loader operators should never straighten the stakes or bunks on a trailer
- Stay away from power lines. If contact is made with a power line, stay in truck or loader and do not allow others to approach until help arrives

Wood Yard Maps

Wood yard maps for many of Minnesota's mills can be found at:

www.mlep.org/woodyardmaps.htm

The Minnesota Timber Producers Association, in partnership with the member companies of Minnesota Forest Industries as well as the Minnesota Logger Education Program, in an effort to increase safety and reduce accidents, has developed these Wood Yard Safety Recommendations. Each facility will have its own rules and regulations for its property. These recommendations are designed to improve safety, increase awareness, and to the greatest extent possible, standardize safety practices across the state.

Minnesota Logger Education Program
Dave Chura, Executive Director
301 W 1st Street; Suite 510
Duluth, MN 55802
218-722-5442 · dchura@mlep.org · www.mlep.org