

# *Idaho Logging Safety News Volume 30 Number 4 December 2019*



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Division of Building Safety, Logging Safety Program

Brad Little, Governor  
Chris Jensen, Administrator  
Molly & Jenna, Editors

## ***BETTER WATCH OUT....THERE IS A NEW LOGGING SAFETY GUY IN TOWN!***

The Division of Building Safety is extremely excited to announce that they have hired **Shawn Ogden** as a Logging Safety Advisor for the Logging Safety Program. The area Shawn will be covering will be from Riggins on south to the whole bottom part of Idaho.

One thing Shawn mentioned to me that I think best describes what kind of fellow you will be dealing with was, “*I bought my first chain saw at 16 and started selling fire wood, and have had a saw in my hands ever since*”. I am sure that doesn't sound familiar to any of you loggers out there!



*A couple of weeks after Shawn Ogden (on the left) was hired, we stopped in Kamiah and he was introduced to Randy Eller who is the Operation Manager for Empire Lumber.*

*Randy talked about how important safety is in every part of the Timber Industry. Having that dedication towards safety from sawmills such as Empire Lumber, means more to the logging companies than sometimes we realize.*

Remember, the Logging Safety crew works *for* the logging industry here in Idaho. It is our goal to help the logging companies keep in compliance with state safety standards and also work with the loggers to solve any safety issues your companies run into.

With Shawn's experience in the woods, along with his work ethic, I am very confident he will be a great asset completing that goal.

Since he is the “new guy”, give him at least one job visit before you start giving him too much trouble!

Galen

*In this issue: Safety Glasses, Wrapping Up, Getting Poisoned, Making Sure You Make it to the Safety Classes and Much More!*

## ***NATIONWIDE POISON CONTROL HOTLINE...DON'T BE AFRAID TO USE IT 1-800-222-1222***

*By Terry Streeter*

If you suspect a poisoning, don't hesitate to call this number because *knowing* is safer than *guessing* and quick action could *SAVE A LIFE!*

This number is in the first pages of every phone book, but I think it would be a great idea to have it on your cell phone. You then have immediate access to trained medical help.

Try to determine the type of poison before you call, but don't waste time...make the call!

You can get poisoned several different ways, causing severe illness or even death. You can **SWALLOW** something poisonous or something that contains something toxic in it. You could **INHALE** some kind of gas or smoke that is poisonous or you could **ABSORB** a chemical through your skin or through your eyes.

The people on the Hotline will give you confidential expert medical advice. They are trained professionals and are very easy to talk to. They know that if you are calling them, you are worried and concerned. I have talked to and used them myself. Not only did they tell us what to do, but they made a call back the next day to see how things were.

This number and the services they provide are not only for around the house. The hotline folks told me that 75% of calls are from industries, just like our logging industry.

Now this is not only a poison control number, you can ask them medical advice in an emergency, how to handle an emergency situation, or who you should call.

I have talked to *EMTs, Firemen, and State Troopers*, and they use this hotline because of the quick and vast knowledge of poisons and medical injuries.

Take the time to put the number on your phone (and on all your family members' phones) and don't be afraid to use it. Whether you are out in the woods, at home or in the shop, it could *SAVE A LIFE*.



*This picture was sent to us by a logger here in Idaho. The stump was "manufactured" by a wood getter who apparently had a problem with the local power company because the tree went across the main power line in the area.*

*The logger reported that it looked like the wood getter did spend some time whittling on the tree to get it out of the line, but then got in his vehicle and made a run for it before the linemen showed up!*

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## EVERY THIRTY DAYS

*By Stan Leach*

I have decided that a good fire extinguisher is like a good attorney. You don't think much about one until you really need one. In that instant, you want it to do its job and produce your desired outcome. The difference is, you don't have to check on the attorney every thirty days.

Idaho Minimum Safety Standards require that all fire extinguishers be checked and signed off on every thirty days. Be sure they are still charged up and not missing any of the activating parts. While doing your inspection, turn them over and thump the base to be sure the product inside has not become compacted. Put the date and your initials on the tag that comes on it from the yearly certification.

Thirty days passes very quickly when you are working in the woods. I swear it was Memorial Day just a couple weeks ago. Get in the habit of checking them, maybe the first of every month or maybe the same day you have your monthly safety meeting. You can put it in your smart phone to remind you. Whatever it takes so you remember to do it every thirty days.

It is a horrible feeling to have a fire start on your machine or job, but the feeling gets worse if you grab an extinguisher, pull the handle and nothing happens! Checking it regularly will help insure that it will work if needed. If it doesn't, you may be calling a good attorney.



*The picture is of a sawyers pickup that burned up this summer. There were no mechanical problems before this happened. Several extinguishers were used and a water truck called in. They stopped it from spreading into the slash and surrounding timber.*

*Just because there is a foot of snow on the ground does not mean we quit checking those fire extinguishers. A piece of logging equipment seems to burn up just the same whether it is July or January.*

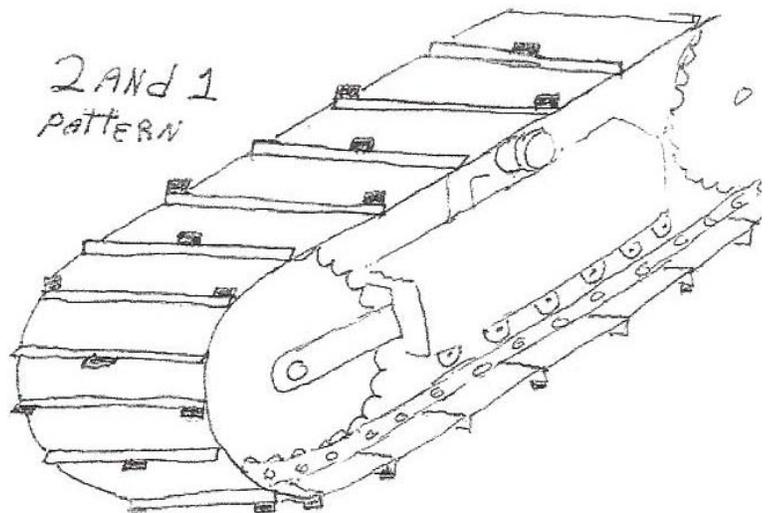
*Not a bad idea to check the ones at home either!*

## IT'S THAT ICE BIT TIME OF YEAR!

Over the years, we have heard many different "philosophies" on ice bit patterns, and they ALL make sense. It shows you loggers are thinking about what it takes to stay on the road this time of year.

Adding ice bits takes time and money, but it is one of the best investments you can make. With some of the out sloped roads, it is hard not to slide with the best ice bits welded on.

When I hear the lowboy guys whining about their bed being torn up, I know you loggers are doing it right!!!



## ***SAFETY GLASSES***

***By Shawn Ogden***

I could preach about wearing safety glasses, but everyone already knows that they should be wearing them when the time is appropriate.

To those of you that do wear safety glasses, you have already learned how to wear them and have found a pair that work for you. When I say, "*how to wear them*", I don't mean just putting them on your face, so they cover your eyes. I mean learning how to keep sweat from constantly running down them and blurring your vision, how to keep them clean, where to store them so they don't get scratched and how to keep them from fogging up. I will tell you from my experience what has worked for me.

The first thing, and possibly the most important, is to buy a quality pair. Not just the \$10 pair you get at the parts house. I went through several pairs of cheap safety glasses and they were never very clear, not even when they were new. Oh, and if you do spend \$100 or more on glasses, you are not as apt to just throw them on the dash and let them rattle around.

What I did finally settle on was a pair of Oakley M-Frames. They exceed logging safety standards, are super clear, don't scratch easily and they don't have a frame that wraps all the way around the bottom of the lens. For sawyers, that is a big deal because if they hold small pieces of sawdust, it will get dumped right in your eyes when you look up as your tree is falling.

To mitigate the amount of sweat that runs down them during the day, I wear small sponge sweat bands. They are cheap, will hold a lot of sweat and occasionally you can stop for a second and wring them out. Not to mention your wife will love the way you look with a sponge strapped to your forehead. Even a quality pair of glasses will fog up sometimes, but not as bad as cheap ones. That is something you just have to get use to.

The worst time for wearing glasses is when it is raining. When you look up you cannot avoid getting rain drops on them. Carrying a clean paper towel to dry them off will help. I know this sounds like a lot of work, but it is far better than missing work because you scratched your eye...or something worse.

Hot water and soap works well at the end of the day when it comes time to clean your glasses. Of course pitch is always a pain to clean off, but you will figure it out.

If you don't wear safety glasses or some other kind of eye protection, give it a try. Chances are you have tried something in the past or have always thought you should be wearing them. Give it a little time and find what works best for you. It is worth the effort!

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### ***YOUR IDAHO LOGGING SAFETY ADVISORS***

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## ***GOOD DISCUSSION POINTS OUT POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS!!!***

*By Stan Leach*

In the last newsletter, we talked about a couple of accidents that occurred during the wrapping up process this season. One of the safety suggestions was to back away from the load when hand pulling enough slack on the wrappers to flip them underneath the load. Follow up discussion with several loader operators and truck drivers since then has brought up the question of what to do if there is no room to back up. The picture shows what we are talking about.

Often with a narrow road, a steep cut bank, or logs decked close to the road, there isn't room to back away from the load.

At this point that voice in your head should be talking to you. Recognizing the possible dangers in any situation is your best defense. Think about what you are going to do if a log does come off the load before you pull on the wrappers. If it is a load of short logs, you may be close enough to the bunk to step in front of or behind the load. If it is long logs, your safest move may be to drop down under the load. Safe procedures for timber fallers include planning and clearing out a safe escape path to move on once the tree starts to go. This same process works for drivers as well. Thinking about the hazard and knowing what you are going to do ahead of time will save a second or two giving you the time to get away before the log comes down.

Good communication with the loader operator can help as well, especially if you end up with a mound of short logs on top. I know we try not to do that, but it does happen because we have at least a dozen sorts going to five different mills, and we try to get rid of the short logs as soon as possible.

*(A LITTLE KNOWN FACT: If left in the deck, short logs will reproduce! You might have ten short logs visible when you left Friday night, but there will be at least twenty to try to fit on the load when you start loading Monday morning.)*

If you do have short logs on top, ask the loader operator to watch as you go to pull your wrappers and flip them apart. If they don't pull easy, don't just yank on them; be sure they aren't hung up or wrapped around a log that could come off. If we all take on the responsibility of looking out for each other, we might just prevent an accident.

The goal is to wrap up at the loader, but, if you determine that it is unsafe to do that, you do have the option of pulling ahead to **the first safe spot still in sight of the loader!**

Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to discuss these issues with me during the last couple months. Be safe.

## **UPCOMING SPRING SAFETY CLASSES.....JUST TO BE CLEAR!!!!**

I know it is a few months off, but the safety classes will be coming up and I want to make things as clear as possible so we won't have "issues" next logging season. If you log in Idaho, you need to have the **FIRST Aid and CPR Training** and **ALL** the other **Training** we cover in the Spring Classes.

Like I said, if you log in Idaho, you are **REQUIRED** to have this annual training. This goes for the **owner of the outfit, the whole logging crew**, and yes, all the **LOGGING TRUCK DRIVERS!!!!**

—*But I just run the water truck....REQUIRED!*

—*I have my own company, I just grade this logging companie's road...REQUIRED!*

—*I have a regular job, I just pile brush on the weekends...REQUIRED!*

—*I don't work here, I just come up at night and steal stuff...Special Training Available by the Line Crew!*  
Anyway, you get my point.

You want your company to be "compliant". You have the truck drivers wear their hard hats, sawyers keep in contact with the rest of the crew, and you have all your warning signs up...you are "compliant" with the logging standards. Having your crew members get the training is no different.

I am going to put the schedule for the classes on the next page. I know it is several months off, but if you have people on your crew that travel or work in other states during lay off, you have the time to figure out ways to get them to one of the classes.

Apparently we have a few fellows (very few) that have figured out ways around attending the classes and still getting their name on the list. Those days are over. Get on in and get it done!

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## **THE ASSOCIATED LOGGING CONTRACTORS ARE HAVING A SAFETY CONFERENCE!**

*Saturday, December 14th at the Red Lion Hotel in Lewiston. FREE breakfast and check in at 7 am and the Conference starts at 8 am. Attend, listen, get involved in discussing the latest in logging safety trends, machine safety and participate in an interactive safety improvement seminar!*

—**LOGGING SAFETY TRENDS & SAFETY DATA FROM OREGON AND WASHINGTON**  
*Dr. John Garland*

—**IDAHO'S LOGGING SAFETY TRENDS & SAFETY DATA**—*Bryan Graham, Associated Insurance Services*

—**INTERACTIVE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT**—*Marcy Harrington*

—**LOCK OUT TAG OUT**—*Cody Schnitzius, Safety and Health Manager, Western States Equipment*

—**TRUCKING SAFETY TRENDS**—*Stan Leach, Idaho State Logging Safety Advisor*

*You **must** pre-register by calling the ALC office at 1-800-632-8743 or 1-208-667-6473  
Door Prizes include a Savage Rifle 6.5 Creedmoor, a 9MM Ruger American Pistol and a Traeger Pro Series 34 Wood Pellet Freestanding Grill!*

**BRING YOUR ENTIRE CREW. LAST CHANCE FOR PRO-LOGGER CREDITS THIS YEAR.**

## **IDAHO'S 2020 LOGGING SAFETY CLASSES**

*Doors open at 7 am and Classes start at 8 am. Be on time!*

*Doughnuts and Coffee at all classes with breakfast available at the St. Maries classes provided by Les Schwabs*

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<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>ADDRESS</i>
<i>Hayden</i>	<i>Tuesday, March 3rd</i>	<i>Shrine Club 1250 W. Lancaster</i>
<i>Princeton</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 4th</i>	<i>Palouse River Community Center</i>
<i>Orofino (1)</i>	<i>Thursday, March 5th</i>	<i>Best Western Lodge at Rivers Edge</i>
<i>St. Maries (1)</i>	<i>Tuesday, March 10th</i>	<i>Elks Lodge, 628 Main Avenue</i>
<i>Pierce</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 11th</i>	<i>Pierce Community Center</i>
<i>Grangeville</i>	<i>Thursday, March 12th</i>	<i>Elks Lodge, 111 S. Meadow</i>
<i>Emmett</i>	<i>Friday, March 13th</i>	<i>Nazarene Church, N. Washington Ave</i>
<i>Bonnars Ferry</i>	<i>Tuesday, March 17th</i>	<i>Kootenai River Inn, 7169 Plaza Street</i>
<i>Lewiston</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 18th</i>	<i>Elks Lodge, 3444 Country Club Drive</i>
<i>McCall</i>	<i>Thursday, March 19th</i>	<i>Holiday Inn, 210 N. 3rd Street</i>
<i>St. Maries (2)</i>	<i>Tuesday, March 24th</i>	<i>Elks Lodge, 628 Main Avenue</i>
<i>Ponderay</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 25th</i>	<i>Ponderay Event Center 401 Bonner Way</i>
<i>Orofino (2)</i>	<i>Thursday, March 26th</i>	<i>Best Western Lodge at Rivers Edge</i>
<i>Moscow</i>	<i>Monday, March 30th</i>	<i>Latah County Fairgrounds, Herald St.</i>
<i>Coeur d'Alene</i>	<i>Tuesday, April 7th</i>	<i>ALC Office, 10589 S. Hwy. 95</i>

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### **UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION LEAP UPDATE 2020**

LEAP UPDATE will be in three locations this year. *Tuesday March 10th in Lewiston, Wednesday March 11th in St. Maries and Thursday March 12th in Sandpoint.* You do need to register for the Leap Update classes by calling your Extension's office. Lewiston is 208-885-6356, Coeur d'Alene is 208-446-1680 and Sandpoint is 208-267-3235.

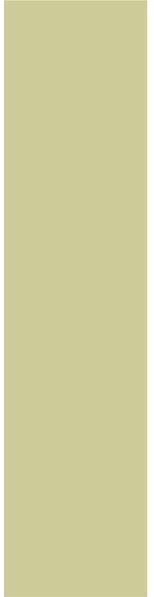
This winter registration forms and online registration information is also available at [www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry/program](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry/program).

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We welcome your comments and suggestions.

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