

# Idaho Logging Safety News

Volume 22 Number 1

FEBRUARY 2011



Published quarterly in the interest of logging safety by the  
Division of Building Safety, Logging Safety Bureau

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor  
C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator  
Suzy Kludt, Editor

## 2011 LOGGING SAFETY CLASSES

*The schedule has changed a bit this year so pay close attention to dates and locations!*

*Some classes will be followed by FIRE TRAINING\* or LEAP UPDATE\*\**

*Les Schwab Tire will be sponsoring breakfast at Post Falls, Bonners Ferry and both St. Maries classes and Western States will be sponsoring breakfast at Pierce, so show up hungry!! Coffee and donuts at the rest. Vittles will be served at 7 AM with classes starting at 8!*

LOCATION	DATE	ADDRESS
Pierce *	Wednesday, March 2	Pierce Community Center
New Meadows	Thursday, March 3	New Meadows Senior Center
Post Falls **	Tuesday, March 8	Post Falls Theater, W. Seltice
Sandpoint (Ponderay)	Wednesday, March 9	Ponderay Events Center 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ponderay
Troy	Thursday, March 10	Troy Lions Club
St. Maries (1) **	Tuesday, March 15	Elks Lodge ( <i>new location</i> )
Princeton *	Wednesday, March 16	Palouse River Community Center
Orofino **	Thursday, March 17	Best Western Lodge
Bonners Ferry **	Wednesday, March 23	Kootenai River Inn
St. Maries (2) *	Thursday, March 24	Elks Lodge ( <i>new location</i> )
Grangeville	Tuesday, April 12	Elks Lodge
Emmett	Wednesday, April 13	Emmett Nazarene Church, 1144 N. Washington Ave ( <i>new location</i> )
St. Anthony	Thursday, April 14	South Freemont Senior Center

*There will also be Fire Training\* in Orofino Tuesday, March 15 at the Armory. For more information on Fire Training in Pierce, Orofino and Princeton contact the CPTPA (476-5612). For information on Fire Training in St. Maries contact Dept. of Lands (245-4551). PRE-REGISTRATION is required for the LEAP UPDATE training. For information contact Idaho Panhandle 446-1680 or North Central Idaho 476-4434.*



*Also in this issue: Hiring a NEW GUY, making videos, working in the shop and what NOT to do!*

## LOGGING CREW GIVES THE NEW LOGGING SAFETY GUY GRIEF ON HIS 1ST DAY ON THE JOB!



*Mike Moore visits with Scotty Judson about the joys of felling when the snow is up to your waist and the trees are loaded with the white stuff. Scotty did point out that at least the timber was small and they all leaned the wrong way, so he had that going for him!*



*Jerry Nicholson, Casey Paul and Doug Olsen blamed Mike for the carriage breaking down. Mike fought back claiming "I just got here." "Yeah, but as soon as you walk up the carriage quits. You're just bad luck!" responded the Darby Logging yarder crew.*

*Mike wasn't too bad of luck though because the boys had the carriage going again within a few minutes.*

## YOU CAN'T LOG AND BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL THOSE RULES.....OR CAN YOU?

Lets face it, most of us in the logging industry just don't like rules because, well, we just don't! Having someone tell you how to do a job you have been doing all your life rubs a person the wrong way. However (*yes, there is a however*) while updating the Minimum Standards for Logging a while back, we could not help noticing, **THESE RULES ARE NOT ALL THAT BAD!**

Now we know that is easy for us safety guys to say, but we are going to try and prove it. From now on we are going to put a few rules in each newsletter for you loggers to look at. We are doing this for a couple of different reasons. We know you logging contractors have enough to worry about so hopefully this will help keep your outfit working in compliance. Secondly, we just don't want anyone hurt. As you read through these keep this in mind, *"Almost every rule was written because someone has been hurt or killed doing things wrong"*. Anyway, we will give it a try!

*Logging Rule: When falling timber, adjacent brush and/or snow shall be cleared away from and around the tree to be felled to provide sufficient room to use saws and axes and provide an adequate escape path.*

*Logging Rule: Operators of yarding equipment shall not move logs or turns until all personnel are in the clear and a signal has been given.*

More "Rules" throughout newsletter

## GOOD PEOPLE FROM INDUSTRY *DEMAND* TO BE IN NEW SAFETY VIDEOS



As everyone knows, the first step toward Hollywood starts with making *Logging Safety* videos. I am sure that is why these two DABCO LOGGING hookers on the left and this CANNON HILL crew below put their work on hold to help us out!

We all know how important production is these days so their time is VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.



*One look at Daniel Childers and John Dotson's Big Screen looks and you know right off that they were made to be in the movies. John has been in the woods for a bunch of years and is one of the most knowledgeable loggers in the state when it comes to working around yarders.*

*Daniel is John's son-in-law. He not only gets to learn from all of that experience, John even lets him pull line to the furthest logs to get in extra practice!*



*CANNON HILL INDUSTRIES crew, Dan Reasor, Stacy Dickey, Jerry Kuisti and Judy Thompson (seated) also turned out to be "born" for the Big Screen. After the ladies got Dan and Jerry to quit laughing, things went great!*

*Cannon Hill grinds wood waste in and around North Idaho. They turn everything from pallets, torn down houses and slash piles into chips which are used for new products. They are just another part of the timber industry that is so important to Idaho.*

---

## NEW GUY HIRED

By Galen Hamilton

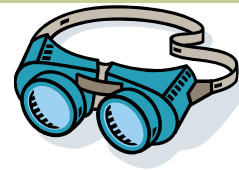
As mentioned on the previous page, Mike Moore is the new logging safety advisor for the St. Maries, Bovill, Potlatch area. Mike joins the safety crew bringing along a vast amount of experience. He comes across as one of those people that thinks about things before he talks (I have heard of that, but never tried it) and is there to get the job done.

We wanted to give Mike ample time transitioning from operating the yarder to becoming an expert on ALL the safety issues you loggers face.....OK, that's long enough! If you have a safety question when he visits your job, go ahead and ask him. I am confident he is the type of fellow that will find an answer.

---



## *EYE CAN SEE YOUR POINT*



**By Mont Biggers**

It is estimated that on average 2,000 workers *a day* suffer eye injuries. It is also estimated that 90% of all workplace injuries are preventable with the use of proper eyewear and safety measures. As you head into the shop this winter it is worth noting that a large percentage of these injuries are caused by welders and grinders. That's not to say the shop is the only place that eye protection is necessary. Flying and falling objects such as we encounter in the woods everyday also account for a lot of injuries.

About 60% of the objects that cause injuries are smaller than a pinhead. If you think about it, potential eye hazards can be found about anywhere on a logging job or shop. Employers are required to provide workers with proper eye protection and should train their workers on where and what kind of eye protection should be used. For example, doing a specific job in the shop this spring may require glasses and a face shield or even specialized eyewear. If you have people traveling into areas where eyewear is required, such as in the shop, it may be wise to have a "100%" policy where everyone is required to wear some sort of eye protection.

There are many kinds of eye protection available. You may have to try several before you find what fits you best. If eyewear is uncomfortable, it won't be worn. Eyewear should be maintained and when it becomes scratched or broken it should be replaced. As always, make sure the eyewear is marked *ansi z87*; that insures it conforms to safety standards.

Sometimes wearing eye protection doesn't prevent a worker from getting injured. Even if you have a good eye protection program, workers should be trained on what to do in an emergency. You should also have an eye-wash station in the shop that is easy to get to in a hurry. Having some eye wash out in the woods when you are working on equipment is not a bad idea, especially for you mechanics. (Remember to check your eye wash periodically to make sure its not expired.)

My goal with this article is to stress that eye injuries are one of the most *preventable* accidents we deal with. By just using proper equipment, along with a little training, I am confident we could reduce the rate of eye injuries significantly. Hauling one of the crew to the emergency room to get their eye worked on doesn't help out with your companies production.

---

### *LOGGING SAFETY GUYS*

*Mike Moore 245-2395  
mmoore@dbs.idaho.gov  
Mont Biggers 369-6631  
mbiggers@dbs.idaho.gov*

*Terry Streeter 446-4149  
tstreeter@dbs.idaho.gov  
Galen Hamilton 935-0401  
ghamilton@dbs.idaho.gov*

*Logging Rule: The employer shall provide first-aid kits at each work site where trees are being felled, at each active landing and in each employee transport vehicle.*

*Logging Rule: Employees whose duties require them to operate a chain saw, shall wear ballistic nylon or equivalent protection covering each leg from upper thigh to boot top, except when working as a climber or working from a bucket truck.*

---

## SAFETY AROUND THE SHOP .... BEFORE YOU START TO MECHANIC


By Terry Streeter

That was an interesting year, wasn't it? I hope everybody did O.K. I just heard things are going to get better next year! (We have never heard that before)

Times are tough, money is tight and it is hard to make ends meet, but SAFETY can not be a place to make cuts. I know it's the time of year to look all the machines over and decide what needs serviced, what needs repaired, and what needs to be replaced. In order to make those decisions you need to look at the books, talk to your equipment operators to see what they think needs fixed, and maybe even check with the mill to see what they have in store for you next season. Hopefully that will help set your priorities on what happens in the shop this spring, but again, the top priority is SAFETY.

So with all that on your mind, you start working on everything, but first, here are what I hope to be some helpful suggestions. I would not think of telling you how to run your shop, but bad things can happen fast so always be prepared for the worst.

 **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS** (*on the wall and marked*)

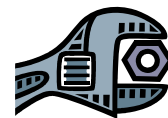
 **EMERGENCY NUMBERS** (*posted with address of shop*)

 **FIRST AID KITS** (*location marked and kits refilled*)

 **EYE WASH AREA** (*location marked and extra bottles if necessary*)

 **BLANKETS** (*keep them warm until ambulance arrives*)

 **SAFETY GLASSES** (*lots of them!*)



These are just a few things that can make a huge difference around the shop. Repair or replace handles, fix broken tools, do not let people use jacks that will not stay up or faulty electrical tools.

Have plenty of blocking on hand. If its handy people seem to use it more. Eye injuries are one of the biggest problems in a shop. *Goggles, safety glasses, grinding helmets* along with your company policy that clearly states: **WEAR THEM!**

One of the most important things to remind your crew about is to take the energy to ZERO on whatever they are working on. Whether it is *electrical, heat, air pressure or hydraulic pressure*. Do not forget *gravity*, as things do fall and tip over occasionally. Remind them to block or chain what they are working on to protect themselves and others. Put blades, booms and grapples on the floor and chalk the wheels.

Have a plan, use common sense and **WORK SAFE!**

I was visiting with a logger a while back who told me about a person in his family that had a stroke. He talked about how it effected that person and how traumatic it was for the rest of the family also. With that in mind, we thought it might be worthwhile to put the “warning signs” out to you. Like the logger said, “You just never know”. Hopefully this is some information you will never need.

### ***WARNING SIGNS OF A STROKE:***

*Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.*

*Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.*

*Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.*

*Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.*

*Sudden, severe headache with no known cause.*



If someone shows any of these signs, check the time so you’ll know when the first symptoms appeared. It’s very important to take immediate action. If given within 3 hours of the start of symptoms, a clot-busting drug called tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) may reduce long-term disability for the most common type of stroke.

tPA is the only FDA-approved medication for the treatment of stroke within 3 hours of stroke symptom onset.

A TIA or transient ischemic attack is a “warning stroke” or “mini stroke” that produces stroke-like symptoms but no lasting damage. Recognizing and treating TIAs can reduce your risk of a major stroke.

The usual TIA symptoms are the same as those of stroke, only temporary. The short duration of these symptoms and lack of permanent brain injury is the main difference between TIA an stroke.



***BET YOU BOYS WOULDN'T MIND BEIN ONE OF THOSE "STUPID" TRUCK DRIVERS TODAY!***

## ***SOME TOOL SAFETY ADVICE I HAVE LEARNED***

***By Mont Biggers***

It's not a bad idea to stop and think about what you are doing every now and then. Over the years I know that I could have benefitted from this advice. I thought I would share some of the things that I have done, witnessed or heard stories about in the past that *I have learned from*, to help me make this point.

Ever wonder what happens when you are in close quarters using a cut off wheel on a die grinder and the wheel has a little crack in it? It explodes! It sends shrapnel everywhere at a high rate of speed. In that incident the injury from the wheel wasn't near as bad as the bolt head scrapes on my hind side from jumping back quickly. *I have learned* any time a cut off wheel or grinding wheel has a crack or missing piece it should be replaced. Always inspect them before use.

Have you ever had your hand on an impact socket when it broke while in use? I witnessed the results of this and it wasn't pretty. Massive flaying cuts across the palm of the hand was the result. In this case the little retainer on the end of the air gun was worn out and wouldn't hold the socket on. *I have learned* that sometimes a cheap fix can prevent a horrible injury.

Have you been under somebody cutting or welding or even out in the open around someone using an air arc, and had a sparkly go in your ear? Horrible pain and there is not a thing you can do about it. You have to listen to the sizzling the whole while as it goes away, but the pain lasts a lot longer. *I have learned* that ear plugs help a bunch. At least the sparkly does not go so deep! You should wear earplugs while air arcing anyway.

Have you ever been using a bench grinder and had what you were grinding go between the work rest and wheel trapping your thumb in between? Lets just say it hurts. *I have learned* there is a reason that your work rest is supposed to be 1/8" away from the grinding wheel.

Getting your ring welded to a starter is also very painful and can be hard to get away from. *I have learned* to unhook the power before working on a starter.

Ever have the ring on your finger get caught on something? I heard a story of a fellow that got his caught on a moving piece of machinery and it peeled his finger all of the way around down to the bone and clear to the end. Since his finger still had a few strands holding it on, they were able to sew him back together with some success. *I have learned* you should always be careful of getting what you are wearing caught in machinery, not just rings but gloves or any lose article of clothing. I am not going to repeat any more of those stories, just too darn gruesome!

What I am getting at is a little thought goes a long ways toward preventing an injury. Checking and maintaining machinery and tools also helps a lot. Guards should always be put on and in good shape and you should always wear the proper protective gear. *I have learned* that learning does not have to be so painful or costly.

---

*Logging Rule: A tool handle, stick, iron bar, or similar object shall be used in guiding lines onto drums. Guiding lines with hands is prohibited.*

*Logging Rule: All woods workers shall be required to complete an approved course in first-aid and have a current card.*

---

Idaho Logging Safety News  
363 Shenandoah Dr.  
Kamiah, Idaho  
83536

---

PRST-STD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO 32  
OROFINO ID

---



## *The Idaho Logging Safety News*

Is published quarterly by the Logging Safety Bureau

It is mailed to all logging companies in Idaho.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Call (208) 935-0401 or reach us online:

Idaho Logging Safety News, Logging Safety Bureau,  
[dbs.idaho.gov](http://dbs.idaho.gov)

Log Safe