

Idaho Logging Safety News

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SAFETY CLASSES A BIG SUCCESS EVEN WITH VICIOUS RUMORS THEY HAD GONE TO THE DOGS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Another year of training for all of the loggers here in Idaho has come and gone. I want to thank all of you that attended for your patience and politeness. Being shoved into a room similar to a bunch of sardines and listening to the same "information" year after year, is not a day most loggers look forward to. The reason these classes are a success each year is because the people in this industry allows them to be. THANKS AGAIN!

The picture over to the right shows Chewy trying to explain some of the First Aid training to Tom Pugh and Steve Sherick during a break in one of the classes at St. Maries.

*Another big thanks goes out to **Western States, Les Schwab and Western Trailer** for supplying the much needed donuts for all of the classes and to the **Associated Logging Contractors** for picking up the bill for the rooms!*



Western States Product Support man Chris Stephans visits with Gene Johnson and Tom Fisher at the Pierce class. If we could "bottle up" some of the logging knowledge Gene and Tom have I am pretty sure we could sell it. I know I would take a case for sure!



Zack Neu, Josh Phillips, Matt Watts and Lance McRoberts had to hurry and gobble up a bunch of that Les Schwab breakfast at Post Falls so they could get back and change some tires on a couple of log trucks!

SAFETY CLASSES (cont')

Lani Nelson brought her dad Justin to the Orofino class and immediately began melting the hearts of all of those big ol lumberjacks! By a unanimous vote Lani was named "Prettiest Logger" for this year's Safety Classes.

Nathan and Josh Sandelin, below, attended the Bonners Ferry class this year. I have been told that these two young fellows are really good hands out in the woods and I can add that they are also very polite and courteous to be around.



Now, the 3 lumberjacks to the right, Alan Flory, Jamie Barton and Vance Warden, are just a tad older than Nathan and Josh but still fall into that "good people" category. Like I mentioned earlier, the classes have a tendency to be repetitious. Alan, Jamie and Vance asked some good questions and added several very good suggestions, which really adds to the class. Good Job Guys!



DON'T FORGET TO TRAIN YOUR CREW

While I was writing about the three guys above, Alan, Jamie and Vance, it reminded me of the conversation I had with them after the Bonner's safety class. The point they were making, and I thought it a dang good one, was that "safety" had to be taken care of by the loggers out in the woods. Whether it is a new hire or an experienced worker, if they are doing something that is going to get them hurt the rest of the crew needs to let them know about it.

Vance said, "When I started, the old loggers would yell and scream at us, and by golly you better have listened"!

You loggers know we are getting people into the industry these days that haven't grown up around logging like most of you, and they may take a day or two longer to get the idea of how things are done. Take the time to train them on how YOU want them to do their job. Hopefully it will be a "win-win" for all of you.

And on a side note for you owners and bosses. Don't forget to document that you did that training, on what date and what you covered.

ANSWERING QUESTIONS AND PASSING ALONG GOOD SUGGESTIONS FROM THE SAFETY CLASSES

By Mont Biggers

We had a few questions and suggestions made both during and after this years first aid classes. I will try to answer some of the questions and pass on the suggestions here.

Do you perform C.P.R. differently on someone that has a pacemaker?

C.P.R. is the same on a person with a pacemaker as it is without a pacemaker. You provide reps. of 30 compressions and 2 breaths until trained help arrives. However, if you use an AED on a person with a pacemaker it requires some minor changes. As a rule, if a pacemaker is visible you place the top electrode pad an inch or more away from the pacemaker. If you have an AED I strongly recommend you consult the manufacture for proper instructions.

What is the shelf life of the blood clotting agents that you mentioned?

The two I talk about most of the time, Celox and Quikclot, have a shelf life of 3 years after the date of manufacture. If you are looking at another brand it should state on the label both when it was made and how long it's good for.

There were a lot of ***good suggestions*** about first aid that went above and beyond what we teach in class. Our class is designed as a *basic* first aid class, so remember, if it's the only class you take you are supposed to stay within the parameters of what we teach. That being said, if you would like to know more about first aid there is nothing wrong with adding additional training. Each thing you learn makes you a more valuable asset not only to your crew but to anyone you may encounter that needs help.

There were also some ***good suggestions*** on the safety concerns out on your logging job. One suggestion I wanted to pass along was using *smoke canisters* to mark the landing sight for the rescue helicopter and to also aid them in locating your position. The boys from Kraack Logging, pictured below, have the smoke canisters



right with their First-Aid kits and Emergency Rescue information.

Greg has had quite a bit of experience with smoke canisters when he was in the military and sold Rick on the idea a while back.

“When you are up in the air you can see that smoke for miles and they will fly right to you”, Greg explained.

From the left, Chad Farrell (Clearwater Paper), Mike Magers, Rick Kraack and Greg Ite. Good Job Guys!

NICE LOAD, JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS!

By Terry Streeter

You don't see loads like this going down the road anymore. I know it is not out in the woods but I thought it was too neat to pass up.

This spring Cannon Hill Industries had the job of clearing these giants for the City of Coeur d'Alene. This is being done to make access to the *Education Corridor* on the east side of the Spokane River.

Because of the tight quarters and the size of the trees they put their best man for the job, Billy Maple, on it. Billy is an experienced Logger with 30+ years in the woods and also has his own self loader. They also called in Steve Howard of Select Tree Service to do the climbing and topping.

Big trees that leaned hard and in a small area was not the only problem they faced. These trees were 150 years old and in the city, so Billy knew to check for nails, old telephone wires and glass insulators before starting. All of these can be hazardous while sawing.

When you are sawing on the back cut on a leaning tree and hit iron or glass, it immediately dulls or can even stop the chain. This creates a perfect situation for a "barber chair", and getting people hurt!



Knowing this they tied an excavator, operated by Jerid Marks, to some of the trees so they wouldn't lose them. They also used a metal detector *before* sawing and bucking. When they felt it was needed Steve climbed the tree and topped it. Their plan worked and they got all 15 of them down and on the truck SAFELY!

With loggers working closer to town, cutting into objects other than wood becomes more likely, so be aware and think it out.

*Experience is valuable in every job out there but when it comes to logging and safety, experience is immeasurable. We are very lucky to have loggers like **Billy Maple** in our industry!*

(For you N. Idaho loggers, these were the big pine that stood where the DeArmond Saw Mill used to be)



NARROW BANDING YOUR VHF AND UHF RADIOS

By Mont Biggers

On January 1, 2013, you must cease operating a mobile radio system in the 150-512 MHz bands using 25 KHz efficiency technology and begin using at least 12.5 KHz efficiency technology. This is known as ***Narrow Banding***. This process will create more channel capacity and support for more users. It is important to figure out if your radios, whether they are VHF or UHF, broadcast within these bands. If so, and you want to continue to use them, you will have to make changes.

Most radios that have been made in the last few years are capable of being switched to narrow band, but many of the older ones cannot. You can contact the manufacturer of your radio and give them the serial # and they will tell you if the unit is capable of the switch. In most cases you can also find that information on the internet or ask your local radio shop people.

It is also important to see if the repeater that you are using is capable of making the switch. This should be done whether it's owned by you, leased or someone else provides your service.

I have also been told that your radios will need to be ***RE-TONED*** in order to use it to call State Comm. If you have that frequency on your radio, let the radio shop people know when you take them in to get the narrow banding work done and they can *re-tone* them at that time. The toning needs to be reprogrammed on the *Transmit Frequency*, NOT on the *Receiver Frequency*. Apparently the *re-toning* needs to be completed by this fall.

If you decide to keep your service there are several different avenues to update radios. Sometimes you can find good deals at online auction sites for example, just make sure they are able to be "*narrow banded*".

If you decide to discontinue use of your radios but still need another means of communication, Satellite phones may be another option. They have made great progress with the phones reliability of service and coverage. To me the "Iridium" service is worth checking out. Also, quite a few of the logging companies around the state have *SMR* phones and they seem to work well for them.

Oh, and by the way, I have also been told that the *SMR* phones ***DO NOT*** have to be narrow banded.

O.K., is that confusing enough? If not, give me, Terry or Galen a call and we will try and confuse you even more!!!



IDAHO LOGGING SAFETY

Mont Biggers 369-6631

Terry Streeter 446-4149

Galen Hamilton 935-0401



(Since we heard the same complaints this year about first-aid kits, we thought we would run Monte's article from last season again)

SNIVEL KIT MAY BE THE ANSWER!

By Monte Biggers



During our safety classes this year we went over the requirements for first aid kits on the jobsite. One of the things I heard mentioned was how hard it was to keep the kits intact throughout the year. A logger might suffer a pretty minor injury and then get into one of the kits and rummage around making a mess of things. Here are a couple of ideas that might help solve the problem.

One is to seal your regulation first aid kit in a vacuum bag and label it “***open in case of life threatening injury only***”. Then provide another kit that contains things commonly used such as band aids, elastic band-aids, etc., just the items that you would use in a non life threatening injury situation (it may not hurt to throw in a blood borne pathogen kit too). You can label this kit the “***Snivel Kit***”. This might help keep your regulation kit in order for when you really need it and still provide supplies for the minor injuries.

If you want to go one step further, another thing you could do is make up a kit that just contains compresses, elastic wrap, a blood borne pathogen kit and maybe a package or two of a blood clotting agent. Think of the things you may use in a real life threatening situation where major bleeding is involved. You would then vacuum seal this kit and label it “***open in case of severe bleeding only***”. This might not keep your regulation kit intact but having what you need to stop deadly bleeding may just save a life.

WRAPPING UP WHERE, WHEN AND WHY

By Galen Hamilton

This is a result of a wrapper coming into contact with a power line when the truck driver was securing his load. I know many of you “older” drivers will recognize this picture, but there are a lot of new drivers out there so I thought it was worth reminding them. A wrapper DOES NOT have to touch a power line, just get close enough to ark, so LOOK UP before throwing that cable!

Loggers do things differently throughout the state but the goal is to get that load wrapped up *before* leaving the “*landing area*”. If you have to drive by any people (landing men, other drivers, etc.) throw a wrapper before you move. If there are no people or rigs around and the



boss wants you out from under the boom, then the ***1st*** safe wide spot will do.

Cruising out “a corner or two” (*4 miles*) to let the load settle is nice, but it just isn’t worth the chance. If a log ever came off a load that wasn’t properly secured and lit on Mr. and Mrs. Joe Public, well, it wouldn’t be good if you get my drift!

There is enough to worry about out there, lets not manufacture more! 10-4 Good Buddy.

BEING ABLE TO SEE THAT LUMBERJACK COULD SAVE A LIFE!



*I know, our safety letter is done in Black and White so you can't tell the colors. I guess you will have to take my word for it that Lonnie's shirt was **BRIGHT** green and his hard hat was **BRIGHT** orange, and you could see him a heck of a lot better than you could the carriage! Good Job Guys!*

When it comes to this subject loggers know two things. Number one is that yes, being visible in the woods can definitely save you from getting *whacked*, and Number two, wearing a vest or something on that order can be a pain in the patooty!

So, when I looked clear across the canyon the other day and saw a green and orange speck that was so shiny it hurt my eyes, I decided to investigate. It turned out to be **Lonnie Veltri** out wallering through the brush hooking logs for **Mike Burrell Logging!**

Lonnie said he only likes wearing T-shirts in the summer, so when he goes to the store he picks out the brightest colors they have.

If your orange plastic hard hat is getting "dull" colored they say they are not as strong as they should be, plus, you are losing that *visibility* they were designed for. It maybe time for a new one.

A logger told me years ago that many of us can "pick up" that florescent green color even more so than the orange. Something to think about when your adding to your wardrobe!

(We heard this "quote" from five different loggers in the springs classes, and could not help but pass it along!)



I'D LIKE TO GET MY HANDS ON THE GUY THAT PUT LIGHTS ON LOG LOADERS

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