

CLAYTON RAILROAD SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Monthly

June 2011

EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS

As we go into the summer and it starts getting hot it becomes more and more important to perform daily equipment inspection. Every vehicle and piece of equipment should be inspected every day prior to use. A proper inspection includes filling out and returning to the jobsite superintendent an equipment inspection report. The equipment inspection report helps the person doing an inspection to cover everything that must be checked to ensure safe and proper working conditions.

Items Covered in the Equipment Inspection Report:

- Engine Oil Level
- Glass
- Braking System
- Fire Extinguisher
- Seat Belt
- Gauges and Mirrors
- Tires
- Lubrication Points
- Hydraulic Oil Level

It is also important to keep up with equipment maintenance. All equipment should be greased every morning along with the daily inspection. Engine hours should be kept track of to allow for timely oil changes and additional maintenance requirements.

SAFETY TIP!

MONTHLY SAFETY TIPS ARE TAKEN FROM THE BONUS QUESTION ON THE SAFETY TEST OR SUBMITTED TO THE OFFICE.

“MAINTAIN TRACK RIGHT OF WAY, NEVER LEAVE ANY MATERIAL, EQUIPMENT, OR DEBRIS WITHIN 8 FEET OF THE NEAREST RAIL OF THE TRACK UNLESS AUTHORIZED.”

FIRE PREVENTION ON THE JOB

Fire threatens the construction work site, and you, the construction worker. Fire can destroy materials, structures, and even life. Protect yourself and the job site from the danger of fire.

How to Avoid Starting Fire

The best way to deal with fire is to avoid starting a fire in the first place. The following pointers will help you do just that:

- Help keep the jobsite neat and clean, avoiding the accumulation of debris, dust, rags, or other materials that could start or feed a fire.
- If working with gasoline or other flammable types of substances use extra caution and be aware of proper work procedures.
- If working with electricity on the job site, be careful and make sure it is wired properly.
- Use electrically-powered tools only in approved areas away from flammables or combustibles.
- Know the location of and how to use extinguishers or other fire-fighting equipment.
- Don't smoke anywhere on the job site where it could constitute a fire hazard.

What to do in Case of a Fire

Even if you are safe, you may eventually find yourself in a fire situation on the jobsite. Remember the following steps in the event of a fire:

1. Be aware of smoke and noxious fumes. Fumes can enter the lungs and leave a person unconscious and at the mercy of flames.
2. Avoid Panic. Although fire is a panic situation, when a person panics, dangerous mistakes can be made.
3. Take proper steps as quickly as possible. Time is of the essence in firefighting. The smaller the fire, the easier it is to extinguish.
4. Use a shield. In any fire situation inside a building, anything you can use for cover will help you get out with less risk of injury.