

# HOW TO PREVENT TRACTOR MOWER ROLLOVERS

*Rollover/overturns have been the number one type of fatal tractor incident. These outcomes can be devastating to companies / agencies and families. They are largely preventable by following some key guidelines. All tractors are fitted with a rollover-protective structure (ROPS) and seat belts to protect the operator in the event of an overturn. Newer types of ROPS exist that may work with tractors that must frequently operate under overhead obstacles.*

## USE CAUTION, SLOW DOWN.

- Use caution when operating tractors on or near sloped terrain, embankments, or ditches.
- Reduce speed when crossing slopes, turning at the end of a row or towing equipment and implements.

## WATCH OUT FOR STEEP OR SLIPPERY SLOPES

- Do not operate on slopes that are too steep or slippery.
- Back up steeper slopes, if they cannot be avoided.

## TOW FROM THE REAR IF...

- Keep front-end loaders low, and hitches low and on the drawbar. Only tow loads from the rear hitch.

## ADD FRONT WEIGHTS IF...

- Match the tractor to the size of the load. Add front weights, if necessary to balance the implement and load.

## TRAIN OPERATORS.

Ensure that operators are trained on how to safely operate a tractor.

## Additional resources may be found on:

T2 Center [www.t2center.uconn.edu](http://www.t2center.uconn.edu)

Louisiana LTAP [www.louisianaltap.org](http://www.louisianaltap.org)



Louisiana's Tailgate Talk Series

# TIMELY SAFETY BRIEFINGS





# HOW TO CONDUCT A TAILGATE TALK

*Tailgate Talk is a gathering of small group of workers around the tailgate of a truck or other spot for a brief training session on a single safety topic. Consider using the "Tailgate Talk" concept to help you conduct 10-15 minutes of training sessions with your crew.*

## KEY POINTS:

- Choose one safety topic per session.
  - Be concise. Keep it short.
  - Keep the sessions small.
- Meet in a comfortable & safe spot.
- Allow time for questions & answers.
  - Document the training.

## CHOOSE SAFETY TOPICS

- Pick topics related to recent events.
- Ask employees for their ideas.
- Read newsletters and local news for more information. Use them for additional ideas.

## PLAN LOGISTICS

- Limit sessions to a small number of workers. Six to 10 is a good number.
- Hold sessions early in the week, but not on Monday mornings.
- Conduct tailgate training sessions an average of once a week. Dedicate specific time for the training.
- Limit sessions to only 15 minutes.
- Be on the lookout for weather forecasts or any emergencies.

## PREPARE YOUR PRESENTATION

- Use a one-page fact sheet provided on [www.t2center.uconn.edu](http://www.t2center.uconn.edu)
- You may use materials provided by Louisiana LTAP [www.louisianaltap.org](http://www.louisianaltap.org)
- Look for visual aids and/or props.
- Photocopy handouts ahead of time.
- Familiarize materials a night before.

## CONDUCT THE SESSION.

- Keep your presentation informal.
- Don't use words your employees won't understand.
- Involve your workers in discussion of the topic.
- Allow time for questions at the end.
- Have workers sign a sheet showing they were trained and keep it on file.

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