

Top 10 Health and Safety Risks in Silviculture Sector



Falling dead trees are top health and safety risk

As identified by workers, supervisors, and employers in the Ontario silviculture industry (development and care of forests including tree planting, hand tending, soil scarification) through a risk assessment workshop facilitated by Workplace Safety North.



 Dead snag trees or branches, chicots, hang ups, spring poles in cutover falling on workers



6. Heat stress leading to dehydration



2. Highway traffic incidents (especially those involving transport trucks)



7. ATV, wheel, track machine incidents (rollover, loss of control, speed, collision, leaving roadway)



3. Unsafe driving on forestry roads



8. Wildlife encounters or attacks



4. Motor vehicle incidents



9. Lack of emergency planning



5. Strong winds: Standing trees falling on workers in the block



10. Musculoskeletal injuries and repetitive strain injuries

For more information, please contact your WSN Health and Safety Specialist or visit workplacesafetynorth.ca





SafePlanting.com: Official online health and safety training for Ontario tree planters

E-learning helps both new and experienced tree planters understand the challenges

This dynamic and interactive pre-employment e-learning program supplies new and experienced planters with a comprehensive overview of the hazards and necessary controls to do the work safely and productively.

Safeplanting.com is mobile-friendly. Participants can log in to the course from anywhere with an Internet connection, and managers can access administrative features from their preferred device.

The course includes a SafePlanting.com reference app—so planters can get health and safety information where they are planting, no cell signal required. The app can be downloaded from Google Play or the App Store and accessed any time—regardless of location.

Upon successful completion of the quizzes in all modules, a certificate will be issued confirming successful completion of the training.

About Workplace Safety North

Your local health and safety partner

An independent not-for-profit, Workplace Safety North (WSN) is one of four sector-based health and safety associations in Ontario.

Headquartered in northern Ontario, WSN provides province-wide government approved workplace health and safety training and services for the forest products and mining industries.

With health and safety specialists located across the province, WSN and its legacy organizations have been helping make Ontario workplaces safer for more than 100 years.

WSN is a leading provider of health and safety services, and businesses and communities call upon WSN for expert advice and training. For more information, visit workplacesafetynorth.ca.

Safe Driving on Forest Roads

(Disponible en français)

Available in classroom and e-learning formats, this training course reviews the hazards of driving company, personal or recreational vehicles on logging roads. It covers the unique physical nature of these roads, how to travel safely on them, and how to prepare a vehicle and driver for travelling on them.

Mandatory Awareness Training

(Disponible en français)

All workplaces in Ontario covered under the Occupational Health and Safety Act are required to have their workers and supervisors complete a basic health and safety awareness training program. The Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has provided free training material that meets the requirements set out in Ontario Regulation 297/13 - Occupational Health and Safety Awareness and Training.



Scan the QR code to learn more about silviculture sector risk-based research, or visit workplacesafetynorth.ca/ industries/forest-products