



SET YOUR SIGHTS ON A

SAFE *Spring* SEASON

"Sometimes the days seem long, but the weeks, months, and years seem to pass quickly."

With that comes the inevitable change of seasons, and that can bring a whole new set of challenges into our **home lives** and **work lives**. One "change" we all look forward to is putting away the snow shovel and getting out the spring items such as yard and garden tools, lawn chairs and deck furniture, and the beloved grill.

Enjoy some of these safety tips whether you are at home, on the farm, or at work.

Work

- Proactive preparation: a good nights sleep that allows us to be alert, attentive, and focused on the next day's work.
- Thorough inspections of tools, equipment, and vehicles and preventative maintenance routines.
- Effective communication with the team to efficiently complete the day's tasks together.
- Use the necessary PPE for the specific task (eye, face, and hand protection):
 - Anhydrous Ammonia handling
 - Welding, cutting, torch work
 - Grinding, sanding, painting



WORKPLACE
SAFETY BEGINS AT

HOME

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Farm



- Preventative maintenance, cleaning, and inspections of all equipment needed for a successful planting season.
- In this season of the year “time” is of the essence, so preventing a break down will reduce “lost time,” “added expenses,” and “frustration.”

Load Securement is another topic worthy of our attention.

- Grain, feed, manure, chemicals, fertilizer, seed, equipment, etc. are all transported on a regular basis and should be secured for safe travel on the farm and the road.
- This would merit thorough inspections of chains, straps, covers, and any load securing device that may be used on the farm.

Home

Spring Cleaning may require proper PPE if using household chemicals. *I.e. safety glasses and rubber gloves.*

- Household chores like cleaning gutters and windows or removing items from storage may require the use of a ladder. Remember **Ladder Safety** training?
- Yard clean up may require certain tools like chain saws and chippers that can be extremely dangerous if used carelessly.

Moving and Transporting of Yard Equipment

- The use of trucks and trailers make it very convenient to transport things from point A to point B; however, concerns of **Lifting and Back Safety** and **Load Securement** come into play.
- Use your legs to lift heavy items and get help when possible. **Strains and Sprains** could put a real damper on enjoying the spring season.

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