

## Work Zone Traffic Safety

Transportation incidents and workers struck by vehicles or mobile equipment account for the highest number of fatal work injuries.

Use signage and traffic control devices to make workers, drivers and the public aware of hazards and instructions. An advanced warning area should be used to warn drivers of an upcoming work zone.

Drivers, workers on foot, and pedestrians need to be able to *know, see and understand* the routes construction vehicles will use and what routes the worker on foot should take. Review routes and traffic control plans with teams to ensure everyone knows and complies with expectations.

### Inside the Work Zone:

- Drivers in the work zone must use seat belts and rollover protection on all equipment and vehicles per manufacturer recommendations.
- Signal persons and equipment operators must know the hand signals used on the worksite.
- Operators and workers on foot need to know the visibility limits and blind spots for each vehicle on site.
- Workers on foot should wear high-visibility safety garments designated class 1, 2, or 3.
- All workers should be trained in hazard awareness; Recognizing and reporting potential hazards is necessary so that they can be addressed.
- Make eye contact with operators to ensure the operator is aware of worker presence prior to necessary movement around or near equipment.

### General guidelines:

- Workers must wear high visibility clothing.
- Drivers and operators must wear seat belts.
- Equipment needs rollover protection.
- Know the evacuation routes and methods.
- Follow speed limit requirements.
- Stay alert.
- Avoid sudden and unexpected traffic movements.
- Equipment operators and signal persons need to know and use hand signal.

Operators need to check blind spots, move slowly, use horns, flashing lights and/or flaggers to ensure workers are aware of equipment movement/operation.

### Flaggers:

- Are used to direct traffic and provide direction to workers driving vehicles and mobile equipment.
- Need to be trained/certified and use signaling methods required by those in charge.
- Must wear high visibility clothing with fluorescent colors; Vests need to be class 2 or 3.
- Advanced signage should warn drivers of a flagger ahead.