Industry Safety Update

SAFETY MATTERS
Why Safety Matters?

Waste & recycling collection has the 5th highest fatality rate of any job in the U.S.
Civilian occupations with high fatal work injury rates, 2016

- **Refuse and recyclable material collectors**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 31
  - Fatal work injury rate: 34.1

- **Logging workers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 918
  - Fatal work injury rate: 24.7

- **Fishers and related fishing workers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 24
  - Fatal work injury rate: 86.0

- **Aircraft pilots and flight engineers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 75
  - Fatal work injury rate: 55.5

- **Roofers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 101
  - Fatal work injury rate: 48.6

- **Structural iron and steel workers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 16
  - Fatal work injury rate: 25.1

- **Driver/sales workers and truck drivers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 260
  - Fatal work injury rate: 23.1

- **Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 134
  - Fatal work injury rate: 18.0

- **First-line supervisors of construction trades and extraction workers**
  - Total fatal work injuries: 217
  - Fatal work injury rate: 17.4

**Total fatal work injuries**: 5,190
**All-worker fatal injury rate**: 3.6
Why Safety Matters?

• 1 U.S. waste worker died every 10 days on average in 2017

• Higher than police officers or firefighters

• Fatality rate and raw numbers have generally increased since 2009

• Many worker fatalities occur at small employers in the private sector
  – Small and medium-sized haulers
2014 - 2016 National Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Landfill</th>
<th>MRF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tbody>
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- Collection
- Landfill
- MRF
2017 SWANA Data

126 Fatal Incidents
132 Fatalities

- Both workers & members of the public
- Occurred during collection, at MRFs, TS, landfills, etc.
2017 SWANA Data

38 Solid Waste Workers Died

- 23 drivers and helpers out on collection
- 8 at landfills
- 2 at MRFs
- 2 doing maintenance
- 2 a Transfer Stations
- 1 in the yard
94 members of the public died

- Majority were driver or passenger in a vehicle accident
- 23 pedestrians
- 8 bicyclists
46 solid waste-related fatalities
[4/26/18]

- 18 solid waste workers
- 30 members of the public
- 18 fatalities in January alone
  – One of the worst months in recent memory
2018 So Far

• **Solid waste employees**
  – 12 drivers/helpers on collection
  – 4 at landfill
  – 1 at transfer station
  – 1 at yard

• **Members of the public**
  – 26 drivers/passengers in a vehicle
  – 2 bicyclists
  – 2 motorcyclists
Mississippi Fatalities 2017

Greene County, MS | March 27, 2017
• An inmate worker was killed while working on a garbage truck

Lucedale, MS | July 6, 2017
• One inmate worker killed and another injured when SUV struck them at back of garbage truck

Rankin County, MS | July 27, 2017
• Driver of pickup killed after rear-ending garbage truck

Millard, MS | December 5, 2017
• Person struck while trying to catch roll away vehicle at a landfill
Fatalities

Most common collection worker fatalities

- Backing
- Struck by
- Rollover
Most common third-party fatalities

• Other driver crosses into path (head on)
• Intersections (pedestrians/other vehicles/bikes)
• Back of the truck/Rear End
Injuries and Illnesses

• 15,000+ reported injuries or illness/year in U.S.
  • Collection injury rate is 6.6 (per 100 employees)
    – Strains/Sprains - Lifting
    – Slips/Trips/Falls

• 2,000+ accidents/year require towed vehicle
Injuries and Illnesses

Injuries & Illness 2006 - 2016

Rate per 100 FTE

- Landfill
- Collection
- MRF

2006 to 2016
Solid Waste Accidents

Solid waste and recycling vehicles are involved in accidents with EVERYTHING:
Fires Continue to be a Problem

Summer fires hit several recycling facilities

Firefighters respond to fire in garbage truck

Garbage truck catches fire, damages 4 businesses at Mendham shopping center

Plano to dump recyclables in landfill after fire destroys service center
Natural Gas Truck Fires

The number of fires involving NGV garbage trucks raise public concern

EDITORIAL: Beware dangers of trucks using natural gas
NJ Observer-Tribune (Feb. 1, 2017)
Major accident costs can easily exceed $1 million (settlement/jury award; legal fees; insurance increases; management time)

- Georgia - $11 million settlement (Nov 2016)
- Oregon - $14 million jury award (May 2016)
- Michigan - $14.4 million jury award (March 2015)
1. Engage Your Drivers, Operators, and Front Line Workers

- A majority of accidents/injuries are caused by unsafe behavior
- Make safety personal for your workers
- How do we motivate workers to change their unsafe behaviors?
- Use photos and video to reach employees
  - Show me; don’t tell me
  - Don’t make me read it
2. Review **Your** Safety Data

Safety issues vary:

What are your most common injuries/accidents?

- What are your most costly injuries/accidents?
- Do you have more accidents on certain days/times?

- Figure out common causes—address them
- There is no boilerplate: different fleets, routes, people, leadership, budgets
Real Life Check In

3. Route Observation

- Look for compliance with laws & safety processes
- Regular observation by supervisors or cameras
- Leading to substantial reduction in unsafe behaviors and accidents:
  - Proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
  - Speed
  - Cellphone/Texting
  - Seat Belts
  - Turn Signals
  - Backing/Riding Step (ANSI guidelines)

What role can technology play?
Communicate Frequently

4. **Use Safety Monday and Other Visual Communication Tools**

- Communicate importance of safety **frequently** and **consistently**
- Get creative with signs, videos and posters
- Get creative with locations
- Talk about what you hand out or hang up
  - Weekly/monthly safety meetings
  - Conversation when you see somebody doing it right ... or doing it wrong
5. Safety Belts

Drivers and helpers should always wear a safety belt in the cab.

It can save a life.
6. Distracted Driving is **Dangerous!**

- Cell phone
- Texting
- Food and drinks
- Have a written policy!
- Are you enforcing it?

The National Safety Council (U.S.) recently reported 27% of all crashes involve cell phone use or texting.
7. Focus on Backing/Rear End Collisions

- These are the two most common accidents for solid waste vehicles.
- Rushing is often a contributing factor - Why are we rushing?
- Is driver using helper/mirror/camera while backing?
Training to Reduce Injuries

8. Focus on **Lifting and Slips/Trips/Falls**
   - Two most common injuries for solid waste workers.
   - Train to live properly
     - New hires and annual refreshers
     - Aging workforce may be more prone to injury
   - Why are your workers falling?
     - Correct footwear
     - Adjusting for bad weather
     - Rushing

Photo Courtesy of: The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Transfer Stations, Landfills, and MRFs

- Equally challenging work environments
- And heavy equipment
- And customers unfamiliar with the site driving around
- And passengers – small children and pets
- And the allure of other people’s garbage – scavenging is not recycling
9. Do you?

- Have directional signage and posted speed limits
- Prohibit cell phone use by employees and customers
- Establish truck separation requirements for tipping floor/working face
- Enforce scavenging prohibitions
- Teach about areas under open tailgates and behind swinging doors
- Train employees to avoid slips/trips/falls (on/off equipment)
- Require PPE – high-viz puncture-resistant shoes, gloves, glasses, hearing protection
Facility Operations

9b. And in the facilities, among others:

- Lock-out/Tag-out
- Bale stacking
- Forklifts and skidloaders
- Sorters: hand injuries, repetitive motion, loose clothing
- Slips/trips/falls
- Storing LP cannisters
- Needle sticks
10. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Do the PPE analysis for each job
- It’s not enough to put people in high visibility clothing
- Identify the risks, select the right protections, write it down
- Make it personal
- Enforce PPE usage
- Set a good example
SWANA’s Safety Resources

- SWANA.org/SAFETY
- #SWANAsafety
- Safety Monday
- Slow Down to Get Around
- Fatality alerts
- Classroom safety & compliance training
- Annual Safety Summit at WASTECON
- Partnering with NWRA, EREF, ISWA, NGVA
Thank You

Nothing else we do is more important!

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