

SAFETY MATTERS

LANDFILL SPOTTER SAFETY

It is the spotter's job to control the flow of traffic and keep drivers safe at the landfill. However, they face serious safety risks at the working face from trucks and landfill equipment. The following tips can help spotters stay safe.

1. Spotters must follow all safety procedures and stay alert.
2. Consider directing traffic from inside a "safe" zone. Examples might include concrete barricades or a small structure such as a shed.
3. High-visibility safety vests should always be worn when spotting, and if dark, flashlights should be used.
4. Communication is vital. Where possible, radios are the best way to communicate. Otherwise, develop clear and consistent hand signals for communicating with operators.
5. Spotters should make certain signs and barricades are located properly. The signs should be clean, well-maintained, and easy to read.
6. No scavenging! It poses a serious risk of injury or death and sets a poor example for landfill customers.

Adapted from SWANA's [Landfill Operations Basics Training](#)

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