

SAFETY FIRST

FORKLIFT SAFETY

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) most recent estimates indicate that between **35,000** and **62,000** injuries occur every year involving forklifts.*

National Forklift Safety Day is recognized in the United States on June 13, 2024. The following tips can help keep both forklift operators and others working around them safe.

- Only trained workers should operate a forklift.
- Always wear a seatbelt when the forklift has one.
- Conduct a thorough pre-operation inspection of the forklift.
- Perform regular maintenance on the forklift.
- Never exceed the load limit and make sure it is stable and balanced.
- Maintain a safe speed, especially when turning, reversing, or operating on uneven surfaces.
- Keep a safe distance from platforms and ramp edges.
- Do not raise or lower loads when moving and never drive with the forks up.
- Slow down, stop, and sound the horn at intersections, corners, and wherever sight is limited.
- Always look before backing up and use a spotter if necessary.
- Don't let anyone walk or stand under raised forks.
- Don't give rides or use the fork to lift people.
- Park the forklift in designated areas when not in use.
- Familiarize yourself with emergency procedures.



By following these safety tips, forklift operators in the solid waste and resource management industries can help prevent accidents and injuries on the job.

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