

SAFETY FIRST

Noise Exposure



In waste and resource management processes—such as materials recovery facilities (MRFs)—employees may be at risk of noise exposure, which can impact their hearing. Fortunately, there are several effective ways to control and reduce workplace noise exposure, ranging from equipment modifications to administrative controls.

Here are some practical tips to help minimize noise exposure in your workplace:

- Wear hearing protection such as ear plugs, ear muffs, or both.
- Limit the time employees spend near loud machinery.
- Provide designated quiet areas where workers can take breaks from hazardous noise.
- Use barriers, such as sound walls or curtains, to shield employees from noise sources.



Employers are required to measure workplace noise levels and provide free hearing exams and protection for workers. Since noise is one of the most common occupational health hazards, implementing these safety measures is essential to prevent temporary or permanent hearing loss.



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