

In construction, the potential for injury begins upon arrival at the job site. Construction hazards can be present even before a worker exits their vehicle or when driving around the site.

Workers should practice safe procedures when driving all types of vehicles and construction equipment to avoid creating hazards to themselves and their co-workers. Backing up equipment or vehicles can be especially dangerous if workers fail to follow safe operating procedures.

Remember these tips to keep workers safe when driving on a site:

- Use designated construction entrances and access areas when exiting and entering the job sites.
- All vehicles that will be used must be inspected to assure that they are in safe operating condition and free of apparent damage that could lead to an accident.
- Notify the appropriate person and be certain that any damage or defect is corrected before the vehicle is used.
- Remove from service any motor vehicle that is found to be defective or has faulty safety devices.
- Vehicles to transport employees must have seats secured for the number of workers required.
- Seat belts must be provided and used by all workers using vehicles and earthmoving equipment such as loaders, dozers, and off-highway trucks.
- Never use a vehicle with a damaged seatbelt!
- Many states have strict rules against transporting personnel in the back of a pickup truck. Always follow regulations and your sites safety procedures for transporting co-workers on a site.
- Prevent backing incidents by making sure back-up alarms are working, checking the area behind you before reversing, never backing up without having a clear view, and using a highly visible and well-trained spotter.