

Toolbox Talks

Front-end Loader Safety

Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions. Find more Toolbox Talks on the [Occupational Safety web page](http://www.osha-slc.gov/occupational-safety/).

General Information

Tractors with front-end loaders or other attachments are valuable tools. However, adding an attachment to the front of the tractor changes the tractor's maneuverability. When the loader arms are



raised, the tractor's center of gravity is raised and moved forward. The tractor's stability is reduced; thus, increasing the chance of overturning.

Before Operating

- Before working with an attachment, ensure you have been trained to operate the tractor and equipment.
- Lower attachment to the ground, tilt forward, stop the engine and lock the brakes before leaving operator's platform.
- Ensure that everyone is away from the attachment when in operation.
- Use a front-end loader or attachment only for its intended purpose.
- Watch for overhead hazards when the attachment is raised.
- When traveling with a load;
 - Keep travel speed slow
 - Keep the attachment low,
 - Allow extra room for maneuvering

Front-end Loader Safety Tips

- Do not allow anyone to ride or work in the bucket.
- Do not travel with the attachment in a raised position.
- Do not leave the loader in a raised position.
- Do not stand or work under a raised attachment.
- Do not operate the controls unless seated in the tractor.

Resources

- <http://publications.ehs.iastate.edu/tractorsafety/>
- <https://training.ehs.iastate.edu/iowaSU/site/>

Discussion Date:

Supervisor:

Participants: