

# TAILGATE TOPIC



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## TOPIC: Emergency Preparedness

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**OVERVIEW:** Emergency preparedness is an essential part of every businesses plans and safety activities. This includes business within the agricultural sector and related operations. For example, work with hazardous chemicals, such as fertilizers and fuels can create an emergency situation. Work conducted away from emergency and medical facilities is another consideration. Emergency preparedness, thus, is an important aspect for those working within the growing, harvesting, packaging, transportation businesses as well as supporting industries.

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### TALKING POINTS:

- Develop a written emergency preparedness program for your operations
- Different types of emergencies include fire, earthquake, medical emergency, chemical spill or any other life threatening situation
- Train your employees on what to do for different emergency situations such as:
  - Cleaning up incidental chemical spills
  - Using fire extinguishers
  - How to use emergency eyewash/shower, etc.
- Call 911 in case of emergency
- When reporting an emergency, provide your name, your location, nature of emergency and where to reach you
- Designate an emergency staging area whether you are in the field or the office
- Ensure someone is responsible for a headcount

- Train employees on how to evacuate. Evacuate in an orderly fashion, do not stop to retrieve personal items or to rescue an employee
- Have communication procedures and backup procedures established
- Do not move injured employees unless there is imminent danger, wait for medical help to arrive
- Practice your emergency procedures

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### REVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. What 4 pieces of information should you provide 911? (Answer: Name, location, nature of emergency, where to reach you)
2. Where is your emergency evacuation area?
3. Name 4 types of emergencies. (Answer: Fire, earthquake, medical emergency, chemical spill, any life threatening situation)

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