



*Best Practices Identified at the*  
UAA Indiana Safety Summit  
November 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> 2019

---

# Thank you to our co-hosts!

---



An **AEP** Company

---

BOUNDLESS ENERGY<sup>SM</sup>



# Thank you to our Gold Sponsors!

---



Environmental Consultants



# Thank you to our Silver Sponsors!

---



# Thank you to our Break Sponsors!

---



*Thank you to our Contributing Sponsor  
Vermeer Corporation*

# Job Briefings Save Lives - Let's Discover How

---

## Positive impact of proper job briefing

Focused

Effective Communication

A goal/target

Keeps everyone informed

3 way communication

90% Safer

## **A good team:**

Starts at the interview process

Hire for attitude vs aptitude



# Job Briefings Save Lives - Let's Discover How

---

## **What to look for when reviewing a job brief**

“You get what you measure”

If you can measure it, you can manage it

Legible

Organized

Tasks per employee

Specific to the job

“No boiler plate”



# Job Briefings Save Lives - Let's Discover How

---

## **Positive Reinforcement**

Immediate

Specific

Encouragement - gives “Courage”

Voice

Confidence

Personal value

Don't coach angrily





# Terrain Hazard Assessment

---

## Site/Terrain Evaluation

Slope

Soil type

Hazards

Septic, Drains, etc..

Weather



# Terrain Hazard Assessment

---

## Unit Set-up

Single Outrigger

Tires must be on the ground for stability

Only take the bulge out of the tire(3"-4")

Dual Outrigger

Tires can be lifted off the ground



# Terrain Hazard Assessment

---

## Outrigger Pads

ANSI states that pads shall be used

Size of pad matters

Surface types

Outrigger specs

wood is best product



# Drop Zone & Tree Felling Techniques

---

## Communication

### Job Brief

- Job duties listed

- Risk assessment-ANSI

- 360 assessment of the tree

### 3 way Communication

### Entering drop zone

- Complacent around drop cones



# Drop Zone & Tree Felling Techniques

---

## Felling Operation

Drop Zone Set up

- 1.5x for employee doing work-2x for everyone else

- 4-8 cones

- Drop zone trimming-10ft to 2X the length of limb

Stick Method for judging distance

Proper Notch and placement

- Do not drop a tree from your knees

- Double verify tie point in field and on job brief

Communicate back cut all clear prior to cutting

Escape route

- Clean path for rope puller



# Chipper Safety

---

## Operators

- 1) Safety Glasses, Hearing Protection (plugs, muffs, radio), Hardhat
- 2) Tear-Away Hi-Vis Vest
- 3) Clothing (long pants, no loose fitting clothing or jewelry)
- 4) Gloves must be tight fitting
- 5) Boots (safety toe – depends on contract)
- 6) Misc. – Face Shield, Long Hair, Hooded shirts no strings, Whistle



# Chipper Safety

---

## **Equipment – Pre-Trip Inspection**

1. Fluids, Lights, Bolts, Tires, Air Filter
2. Connections – Pintle Hitch, Safety Chains (crossed not twisted), Break Away
3. Safety Equipment – Stickers, Panic Bar, Last Chance, Chocks, Rubber Flaps in Feed Chute, Manuals, Fenders
4. Start equipment before you leave the lot



# Chipper Safety

---

## **Procedure**

Pre-trip inspection to check all of the equipment - 360 walk around

Start the chipper

Timeline before “new employee” can operate equipment (1 week, after SOP)

Load from the curbside of chipper

Places branches butt first

Walk past and to the side (reverse J)





# Ash Trees & EAB

---

## Policies for climbing dead ash trees?

- Don't climb ash trees anymore

## Alternatives?

Utilize other equipment, byb

Cutter head/grapple, mind MAD

Let it fall, let nature take its course

Planned outage

Climb adjacent tree

Skyline system

Helicopter / tree topper

Aerial saw

Brontosaurus head on excavator

A series of ropes on a tree to fell it

- Buncher
- Remote things
- Multilevel approach
  - Planner
  - Crew attempt
  - Forester Sign Off
- Crane Jobs
- Detonation cord
  - Graham McMan
- Sidetrimmer/Jaraff



# Ash Trees & EAB

---

- **How do we make a tree fail without touching it**
  - Vibration/Resonance of chippers, running equipment
- **Setup is concern**
  - Could any tree nearby affect us or our equipment



# Ash Trees & EAB

---

- **All stops -How do we make people comfortable**
  - Make them part of the job brief. Explain the hazards
  - Give the job brief to the newest person then peer check
  - Helmet stickers
  - Everyone has stop work responsibility
  - Friday morning brothers keepers/close call
    - GF rewards best one each week
      - Different rewards/reasons to win
  - Modify job briefings to discuss Ash trees every job



# Ash Trees & EAB

---

- **How do we share message between new and old employees**

Starts with leadership – newer team members open, veterans more closed

Newer First day onboarding. Stop sign card, your card to plan any time

Veterans – week long mentorship with experienced foreperson

**Generational Fluency**

Different communication type for different generations

Is it enough just to translate documents into Español

Graphics help less literate team members

Tailgates in written AND video format (3-5 min)



# DOT Inspection

---

- **What a Commercial Motor Vehicle is and how to do a Pre-Trip Inspection.**
- Pre-Trip Inspection – best to do it consistently everyday.
- Video was shown to the group detailing how to properly conduct a Pre-Trip Vehicle Inspection.
- Anything found faulty or in need of repair requires immediate attention.
- Must have medical card on person when crossing state lines.
- Commonly overlooked items.
- Ensures the safety of the occupants of the vehicle but anyone who anywhere near the vehicle while it is being operated.



# Best Practice & Lessons Learned

---

1. Chipping Operations – Communicate chipping zone during that operation.
  - a. Spotter setups a zone (10ft) prior to chipping.
  - b. Zipper bag holding fuses and paperwork for the truck hanging in the cab of the truck or a binder.
2. Human Performance – Idea topic for next Safety Summit. (Coaching vs Discipline) Involvement
  - a. Listen to employees more and incorporate their feedback. Explain the why behind processes.
3. Approx. 50% of attendance was field performers
4. Highlight the UAA info more on the left side of the agenda.
5. Ice Breaker before 1<sup>st</sup> breakout session.



# Thank you again to our co-hosts!

---



An **AEP** Company

---

BOUNDLESS ENERGY<sup>SM</sup>



# Thank you again to our Gold Sponsors!

---



Environmental Consultants





# Thank you again to our Silver Sponsors!

---



# Thank you again to our Break Sponsors!

---



*Thank you to our Contributing Sponsor  
Vermeer Corporation*