

# TEXAS MUTUAL SAFETY ALERT



As a service to our policyholders, Texas Mutual shares common workplace injuries reported to our claims department. Our goal is to help you ensure these types of accidents do not happen in your workplace. Find tips and suggested e-Learning training courses below to help keep your employees safe on the job.

If you have questions, we encourage you to call our safety services support center at **844-WORKSAFE (967-5723)** between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CST.

## IN THIS ALERT

- Landscaping safety
- Sharing the road with 18-wheelers

## EMPLOYEES FALL FROM TREES

An employee was standing on a ladder attempting to open an irrigation valve when he slipped and fell about 15 feet to the ground. In another incident, an employee was cutting down a tree limb when it fell and hit him in the head. Both employees were badly injured.



### ! Safety tips:

- Conduct a hazard inspection and plan the job before work begins. This includes checking for structural damage to the tree and selecting the appropriate ladder for the task.
- Inspect personal protective equipment (PPE) for any damages before using it and alert a supervisor if it needs to be replaced.
- Check the area for **power lines** and contact the utility company to discuss de-energizing them if necessary.
- Control access to the area and determine a retreat path from falling limbs prior to **trimming**.

### e-Learning course suggestions:

Ladder Safety

Slip, Trip, and Fall  
Prevention Inspections

Measurement – Dimensions

## COLLISIONS WITH 18-WHEELERS

An employee was on route to a jobsite on a two-lane highway and attempted to pass an 18-wheeler in a no passing zone. The employee struck the side of a truck travelling the opposite direction. In another incident, four employees were travelling from a jobsite back to the office. The driver ran a stop sign and was struck by an 18-wheeler.

Large vehicles and 18-wheelers have limited visibility and maneuverability and other vehicles on the road must be aware of their limitations. It's important to follow proper safety precautions to avoid causing an incident.



### Safety tips:

- Never pass a vehicle in a no passing zone as visibility is limited in these areas.
- Follow the posted speed limit signs or drive slower depending on weather and road conditions.
- Come to a complete stop at all stop signs and check both ways before proceeding.
- Give the 18-wheeler plenty of space by making sure it's in your rearview mirror before pulling in front and slowing down to give them room to merge.

### e-Learning course suggestions:

Driving Preparation  
Alert Driving  
Driving Large Vehicles and Heavy Equipment

## GET FREE SAFETY RESOURCES

Texas Mutual policyholders have access to thousands of free training materials in our multimedia [safety resource center](#), including 200 free e-Learning online training courses. With e-Learning, you can assign safety courses to your employees to help train them and keep them safe.

To access the free materials, log into your [texasmutual.com](https://www.texasmutual.com) account and select safety resources. If you need help accessing the safety resource center or you have a workplace safety question, call us toll-free at **844-WORKSAFE (967-5723)**.